

A
QUIP FOR AN VP.
first Courtier:

.Or,

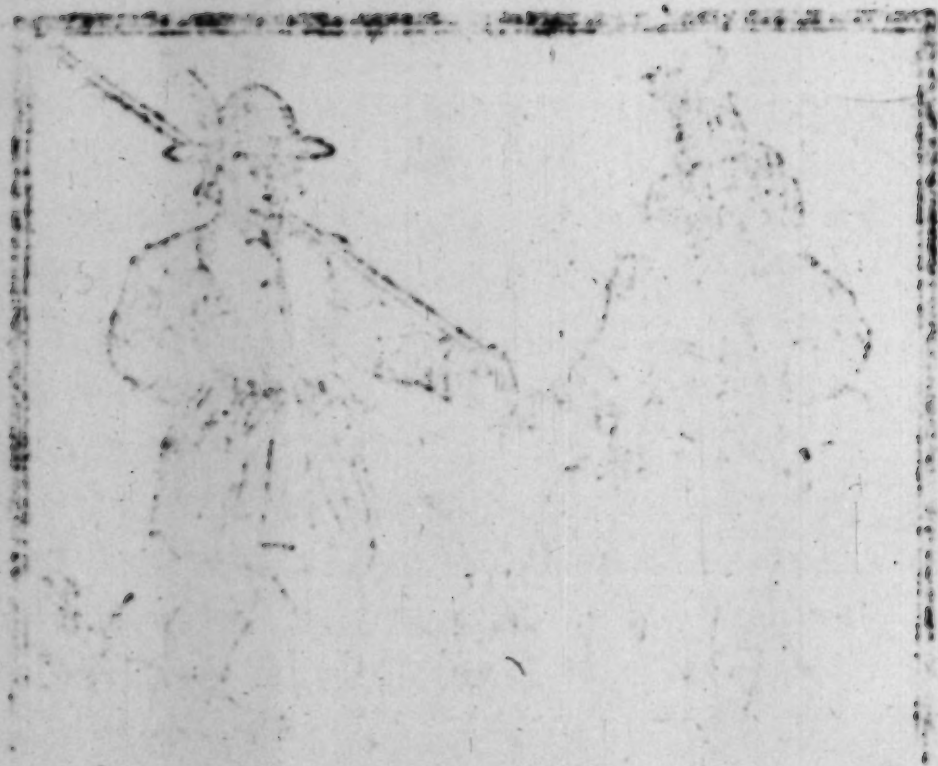
A quaint dispute between Veluet breeches
and Cloth-breeches.

*Wherein is plainely set downe the disorders
in all Estates and Trades.*



L O N D O N

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shop at Poules chayne. 1 5 9 2.



To the Right Worshipful Thomas Burnabye Esquier
Robert Greene wisheth hartes ease, and
heauens blisse.



Ir, after I had ended this Quippe for an upstart
Courtier, contayning a quaint dispute betweene
Clothbreeches and Veluet breeches, wherein vn-
der a dreame I shadowed the abuses that Pride
had bred in Englande, how it had infected the
Court with aspiring Enuie, the Citie with griping
couetousnesse, and the countrie with contempte and disdain. How
since men placed theit delights in proud looks and braue atyre, Ho-
spitality was left off, Neighbourhood was excikd, Conscience was skof-
t, and charitie lay frozen in the streets: how upstart Gentlemen for
the maintainance of that their fathers neuer lookt after, raised rents,
racke their tenants, and imposed greate fines, I stood in a mase to
whome I shoulde dedicate my labours, knowing I should bee bitten by
many, sithens I had toucht many, and therefore neede some woorthy
Patrone vnder whose winges I might shroud my selfe from Goodman
finde fault. At last I cald to mind your Worship, and thought you the
fittest of al. my frends, both for the duetie that I owe, and the woor-
shipfull qualuities you are indued withall, as also for that all Northam-
tonshire reports how you are a father of the poore, a supporter of an-
tient Hospitalitie, an enimie to Pride, and to be short, a maintayner of
Cloth breeches (I meane of the old and worthie customes of the Genti-
litie and yeomanrie of England.) Induced by these reasons, I humbly
present this phamplet to your Worship, only crauing you wil accept it
as courtiously as I present it dutifully, and then I haue the end of my
desire and so resting in hope of your fauourable Acceptance, I humbly
take my leane.

Howebeit, how bid of y^e

Your ductifull adopted sonne,

Robert Greene.

To the Gentlemen Readers health.

CEntle Gentlemen, I hope Cloth breeches shall find your gentle Censors of this homely Apologie of his antient prerogatiues sith though he speakes against Veluet breeches which you were, yet he twits not the weede but the vice, not the apparell when tis worthily worn, but the vnworthie person that weares it, who sprang of a Peasant will vse any sinister meanes to cline to preferment, being then so proude as the foppe forgets like the Asse that a mule was his father. For auntient Gentility and yeomanrie, Cloth breeches attempteth this quarrell, and hopes of their fauour: for vpstarts he is halfe careles, & the more, bicause he knowes whatsoeuer some thincke priuately, they will bee no publike carpers: least by kicking where they are toucht, they bewray their gald backs to the world, and by starting vp to find fault, proue themselves vpstarts and fooles. So then poore Cloth-breeches sets downe his rest on the courtesie of gentle gentlemen and bold Yeomen, that they will suffer him to take no wrong. But suppose the worst, that hee should be fround at, and that such occupations as hee hath vppon conscience discarded from the Iury, should commence an action of vnkindnesse against him, heele proue it not to hold plea, because all the debate was but a dreame. And so hoping all men will merrilie take it, he stands sollemnlie leaning on his pike staffe, till he heare what you conceaue of him for being so peremptorie. If well, he swears to crack his hose at the knees to quite your courtesie. If hardly, he hath vowed that whatsoeuer he dreames neuer to blab it againe, and so he wisheth me humbly to bid you farewell.

A quip for an vpstart Courtier.



I was iust at that time whē the Cuckoulds quir
rister began to be w2ay Aprill Gentlemen, with
his neuer chaunged notes, that I damped with a
melancholy humo2, went into y fields to cheere
bp my wits with the fresh aire: where solitarie
sēking to solace my selfe I fell in a d2eame, and
in that d2owlie slomber, I wandered into a vale
all tapistred with sweet and choise flowers, there grew many simples
whose vertues taught men to be subtil & to think nature by her words
warnd men to be wary and by their secret properties to check wan-
ton and sensuall imperfections. Amongst the rest, there was the yel-
low daffadil, a flower fit for gelous Dottrels, who th2ough the bewty
of their honest wiues grow suspicious, & so proue themselves in the
end cuckhold Heretikes, there buded out the checkerb (Maunsie) o2
partly coloured harts ease, an herbe sildome sene, either of such men
as are wedded to sh2ewes o2 of such women that haue hasty husbands,
yet ther it grew, and as I stept to gather it, it slipt from me like Tan-
talus fruit that failes their maister. At last, wooondzing at this secret
qualitie, I learned that none can weare it, be they kinges, but such
as desire no mo2e then they are bozne to, no2 haue their wishes a-
bone their fortunes. Uppon a banke bo2ding by, grewe womens
wēdes, fenell I meane for flatterers, fit generally for that sere,
stb while they are maidens, they wishe wantonly: while they are
wiues they will wilfully, while they are widowes, they would wil-
lingly: and yet all these proud desires, are but close dissemblings.
Peere adioyning sp2outed out the Courtiers comfozt, Time: An herb
that many stumble on and yet ouerslip, whose rancke sauoz and thick
leaves, haue this peculiar property, to make a snaille if she tast of the
sappe as swift as a swallow, yet w2yned with this preiudice, that if
she clime too hastily, she falls too suddenly. For thought I saw diuers
yong courtiers tread bp2on it with high disdain, but as they pass a-
way, an Adder lurking there bit them by the heeles that they wept:
and then I might perceiue certaine clownes in clowted shoone ga-
ther it, & eate of it with greedynesse: which no sooner was sunke into
their mat2es, but they were metamozphosed, and lookt as proudl2e
th2ough pelants, as if they had bēne bozne to be p2inces companions.

Amongst the rest of these changlings whome the tast of time had

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thus altered, there was some that lifted their heades so hie, as if they had bene bzed to looke no lower then stars, they thought *Noli altum sapere* was rather the saying of a foole, then the censure of a philosopher, and therfore stretcht themselves on their tiptoes, as if they had bene a kindred to the lord Tiptost, and began to disdaine their equals, scorne their inferiours, and even their betters, forgetting now that time had taught them to say masse, how befoze they had playde the Clarke part to say Amen to the priest. Well, then they were not so little as Gentlemen, and their owne conceipt was the Heralde to blason their descente, from an olde house, whose great grandfathers would haue bin glad of a new cottage to hide their heades in. Yet as the peacocke was apt in the pride of his beauious feathers is knowne to be but a dunghill birde by his foule feete: so though the high looks and costly suits argue to the eies of the world they were Canalliers of great worship, yet the churlish illiberalitie of their mindes, be would their fathers were not aboue thre pounoes in the kinges bookes at a subsidie, but as these vpstart changelings went strouting like philopolim richides the bragart in Plautus, they lookte so poudlye at the same, that they stumbled on a bed of Rue, that grewe at the bottome of the banke where the Lime was planted, which fall vpon the dew of so bitter an herbe, taught them that such proud peacockes as ouer hastily out run their fortunes at last to speedily, fall to repentance and yet some of them smild & said Rue was called herbe grace, which though they scorned in their youth, they might weare in their age, & it was neuer too late to say Miserere. As thus I stood musing at this time bozne broad, they vanisht away like Cadmus copesmates, that sprang by of vipers teeth, so that casting mine eie aside after them, I saw where a crew of all estates were gathering flowrs, what kind they were of I knewe not, but pretious, I gesse them in that they pluckt them with greedinesse, so that I drew towards them to be partaker of their profits, comming nearer, I might see the weede they so wrangled for, was a little daper flower, like a ground hunnisuckle, called thrift, praised generally of all, but practised for distillation but of few amongst the crew that seemed couetous of this herbe, ther was a troope of old graiberds in beluet, sattin, and woozsed iackets, that stooped as nimbly to pluck it vp by the rootes, as if their loyns had bene supled in the oile of Asiers skins, they spared no laboz & paines to get and gather, and what they got they gaue to certaine yong boies
and

vpstart Courtier

and girles that stood behinde them, with their shirtes and laps open to receiue it : among whome some scattered it as fast as their fathers gathered it, waisting and spoyling it at their pleasure, which their fathers got with labour.

I thought them to be some Herbalistes or some Apothecaries that had imployed such paines to extract some rare quintessence out of this floure, but one standing by told me they were Cozmozantes and blurers, that gathered it to fill their cosers with, & whereto (quoth I) is it pretious? what is the vertue of it? mary (quoth he) to qualifie the heat of insatiable mindes that like the serpente Dipsas neuer ozinketh enough till they are so full they burste, why then saide I the Diuell burst them all, and with that I fell into a great laughter, to see certain Italianate Cantes, humozous Canaliers, youtfull Gentlemen, and Inamorati gagliardi, that scoznesfully pluckt of it, and woze it a while as if they were weary of it and at last left it as to bae a flower to put in their nosegayes. Others that seemed Homini di grand istima by their lookes and their walkes gathered earnestly and did pocket it by, as if they meant to keepe it carefully, but as they wer carrying it away, there met them a troupe of nice wantons, faire women that like to Lamia had faces like Angels, eies like stars, brestes like the golden front in the Hesperides, but from the middle downwards their shapes like serpents. These with Syzenlike allurementes so entised these quaint squires, that they bestowed all their flowers vppon them for fauours, they themselves walkinge home by beggars bushe for a pennance. Amongst this crew were Lawyers and they gathered the Diuell and all, but poore poets were thrust backe and could not bee suffered to haue one handfull to put amongst their withered garlands of baies, to make them glozious. But Hob and John of the countrey they kept in churlishly, in their high startups, and gathered whole sackfuls: insomuch they woze belcons of Christ in their Hats like forehorses, or the lusty Gallants in a Morrice dance: seeing the crue thus to wangle for so paltry a wæde, I went alone to take one of all the other fragrant flowers that diapzed this valley, thereby I saw the Watchelers buttons, whose vertue is to make wanton maidens weepe when they haue woze it forty weekes vnder their apozns for a fauour.

Next them grew the dessembling daisie, to warne such light of loue wenches not to trust every faire promise that such amozous batchelers

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lers make them, but sweete smells breed bitter repentance. Hard by grew the true louers primrose, whose kind saour wisheth men to be faithfull and women courteous. Alongst in a border grew maiden-hair fit for modest maidens to beholde, and immodest to blushe at, because it praiseth the one for their naturall Tresses, and condemneth the other for their beastly and counterfeit Perriwigs, there was the gentle gilliflowre that wines should weare if they were not too forward; and loiall Lauender, but that was full of Cuckoe-spittes, to shew that womens light thoughts make their husbands heuy heads: there were sweete Lillies Gods plenty, which shewed faire Virgins need not weepe for wowers, and store of balme which could cure strang wounds, only not that wound which women receiue when they lose their maidenheads, for no herbe hath vertue inough to scrape out that blot, and therfore it is the greater blemish. Infinit were the flowers beside that beautified the valley, that to know their names and operations I needed some curious herball, but I passe them over as needlesse, with the vision of their vertues was but a dreame, and therfore I wish no man to holde any discourse herein authenticall. yet thus much I must say for a parting blow, that at the lower end of the dale I saw a great many of women vsing high wordes to their husbands, some striving for the braches, other to haue the last word, some fretting, they could not find a knot in a rush, others struinge whether it were wooll or haire the Goat bare: questioning with one that I met, why these women were so cholericke, he like a scoffing fellow pointed to a bush of nettles, I not willing to be satisfied by signes, asked him what he meant thereby. Mary (quoth hee) all these women that you heare bawling frowning and scolding thus, haue seuerally pitt on this bushe of nettles, and the vertue of them is to force a woman that waters them to bee as penish for a whole day & as waspish as if she had bene stung in the brow with a hornet. Well, I smild at this and left the company to sake further, when in the twinklinge of an eye I was left alone, the valley cleared of all company, & I a distressed man, desirous to wander out of that solitary place to sake good consorts & boone companions to passe away the day withall. As thus I walked forward, seeking vp the hill, I was driuen halfe into a mase with the imagination of a strange wonder which fell out thus: We thought I saw an uncouth headlesse thinge come pacing downe the hill stepping so proudly with such a geometricall grace, as if some artificiall

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officiall bzagart had resolved to measure the world with his paces: I could not describe it to be a man, although it had motion, for that it wanted a body, yet seeing legges and hose, I supposed it to be some monster nurtured up in those desertes, at last as it drew more nigh vnto mee, I might perceine that it was a very passing costly paire of Velvet breeches, whose panes being made of the chiefeest Neapolitan fluffe, was drawne out with the best Spanish satine, and marvellous curiously ouer whipt with gold twill, intersemed with knots of pearle, the Retherstocke was of the purest Granada silck, no cost was spared to sett out these costly breeches, who had girt vnto them a Rapier and Dagger gilt, point pendante, as quaintly as if some curious Florentine had trickt them up to square it up and downe the Streets before his Mistress. As these breeches were exceeding sumptuous to the eye, so were they passing pompous in their gestures, for they strutted up and downe the Mall as proudly as though they had there appointed to act some desperat combat.

Blame mee not if I were drawn into a muse with this most monstrous sight to see in that place such a strange headlesse Courtier tettinge up and downe like the Master of a Fence schoole about to play his Prize, when I deeme neuer in any age such a wonderfull object fortun'd vnto any man before. Well, the greater dumpe this Novelty drew mee into, the more desire I had to see what euent would follow: where vpon looking about to see if that any more company would come, I might perceine from the top of the other hill an other paire of Breeches more soberly marching, and with a softer pace, as if they were not too hasty, and yet would keepe promise neuerthelesse at the place appointed. As soone as they were come into the ballie, I sawe they were a plaine paire of Cloth-breeches, without either welte or garde, straight to the thigh, of white kersie, without a flap, the netherstocke of the same, sewed too aboute the knee, and only seamed with a little country blewe, such as in Diebus illis our great Grandfathers wore, when neighbourhood and hospitality had banisht Pride out of England. For were these plaine breeches weaponlesse, for they had a good sower bat with a pike in the ende, able to lay on load enough, if the hart were answerable to the weapon, and vpon this staffe pitcht downe vpon the ground, Clothbreeches stood solemnly leaning, as if they meant not to start, but to answer to the uttermost whatsoeuer in that place might be objected. Looking vpon these two, I might per-

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ceine by the pride of the one, and humely resolution of the other that
 this their meeting would grow to some dangerous conflict, and there-
 fore to prevent the fatall issue of such a pretended quarrell, I stept be-
 twene them both, when Meluet barches greeted Cloth barches with
 this salutation. Proud and insolent peasant, how darrest thou without
 leave or some reverence passe into the place whether I am come for
 to disport my selfe? Art thou not afraid thy high presumption should
 common me to displeasure, and so force me draw my rapier, which is
 neuer unsheathed but it turnes into the scabbard with a triumph of
 mine enemies blood: bold bayard anant, heard mee not to my face,
 for this time I pardon thy folly, and grant thy legges leave to carry
 away thy life. Cloth barches nothing amazed at this brauado, ben-
 ding his staffe as if he meant (if he were wronged) to bestow his be-
 nison, with a scornfull kind of smiling made this smooth reply: Spar-
 gip Goodman vpsstart, who made your father a Gentleman, soft fire
 makes sweet mault, the curstest Cow hath the shortest hoines, and a
 bawling curro, of all bites the least, alas good sir, are you so fine that
 no man may be your fellow, I pray you what difference is betwene
 you and mee but in the cost and the making, though you bee neuer so
 richly daubde with gould and powdered with Pearle, yet you are but
 a case for the buttockes, and a cover for the basest part of a mans bo-
 dy no more then I, the greatest preheminance is in the garnishing
 and thereof you are proud, but come to the true ble we were appoin-
 ted to, my honoz is more then thine, for I belong to the old auncient
 peomanry, yea and gentility, the fathers, and thou to a companie of
 proud and vnmanerly vpsstarts the sonnes. At this, Meluet-barches
 stoind and said, Why thou beggars brat descended from the reuer-
 sion of base pouertye, is thy insolency so great to make comparison
 with me, whose difference is as great as the brightnesse of the sunne
 and the slender light of a candle: I (pooze snake) am sprung from the
 ancient Romans, borne in Italy the mistresse of the world for chual-
 rie, cald into England from my native home (where I was famous)
 to honour your countrie and yong gentlemen here in England with
 my countenance, where I am holden in high regarde, that I can
 presse into the presence when thou pooze soule shalt with cap and knee
 beg leave of the poster to enter, and I sit and dine with the Nobility,
 when thou art faine to wait for the reuer sion of the almes basket: I
 am admitted boldly to tell my tale, whē thou art faine to sue by means
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of supplication, and that and thou to, so little regarded, that almost commonly it neuer comes to the Princes hand, but dies imprisoned in some obscure pocket: With then ther is such difference betwene our estates, cease to bge my patiences with thy insolent presumption. Cloy bitches as bide as beelows proud, those by the pike of thy blasse, that his rhologicke was not worth a pinne, and that he would turne his one weapon into his bolome thus, Why signor Glorioso (quoth he) though I haue not such glossing phrase to trick out my speerches with all as you, yet I will come ouer your fallowes with this bad the. Tholcke: I pray you Prouisor. What part are you therefore my superiour, because you are taken vp with Gentlemen, and I with the peomanry? Dost true vertue consist in riches, or humanity in wealth? is auncient honour tied to outward biauery? or not rather true nobility, a mind excellently qualified with rare vertues? I will teach thee a lesson worth the hearing, proud princocks, how Gentility first sprung vpe, I will not forget the olde wiues logick, when Adam delid and Eue span, who was then a Gentleman: but I tel thee after the generall floode that there was no moze men vpon the earth but Noe and his thre sonnes, and that Cham had wickedly discovered his fathers secrets the grew the diuision of estates thus: The church was figured in Sem, Gentilitie in Iapheth, and labour and bondage in Cham: Sem being chaste and holy, Iapheth learned and baltant, Cham churlish and seruite, yet did not the curse extend so far vpon Cham, nor the blessing vpon Iapheth, but if the one altered his nature, & became either indued with learning or valour he might be a gentleman, or if the other degenerated from his auncient vertues, he might be beale a pesaunt, where vpon Noe inferred that gentility grew not only by propagation of nature, but by perfection of qualities. When is your worship wide that boast of your worth for your gold & pearle, sith Cucullus non facit Monachum, nor a Tieluet clop make a flouer a gentleman: And whereas thou sayst thou wert borne in Italy, & called hither by our courtiers, him may we curse that brought thee first into Englande, for thou camest not alone but accompanied with a multitude of abominable vices, hanging to thy bumbeast nothing but infectious abuses, as baite-gloze, selfeloue, sodomitie, and strang poisonings, wherewith thou hast infected this glorious Island, yea insolent bagart: thou hast defiled thine one neale, and fatal was the day of thy byrth, for since the time of thy hatching in Italy, as then

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famous for chivalrey and learninge, the imperiall state through thy
 pride hath decayed, and thou hast like the younge Pellican peckt at
 thy mothers brest with thy presumption, causing them to lose that
 their sozefathers with true hono^r conquered, so hast thou beene the
 ruine of the Romane Empp^{re}, and now fatally art thou come into
 Englande to atempte here the like subuersion. Whereas thou
 dost boast that I am little regarded where thou art highly accounted
 of, and hast sufferance to presse into the presence, when I am for my
 simplenesse shut out of doore, I grant thy allegation in part, but not in
 whole, for men of high wisdom and honour measure not men by
 the outward shewe of bzauery, but by the inward worth and honesty,
 and so though I am disdained of a few overweening fooles, I am va-
 lued as well as thy selfe with the wise. In that thou sayst thou canst
 speake when I sue by supplication, I grant it, but the tale thou telst
 is to the ruine of the pooze, for comming into high fauour with an im-
 pudent face, what sarne is there expired, whose lease thou dost not
 begge? what sozefite of penall statutes? what consealed landes can
 ouerslip this? yea rather then thy bzauery should faile begge powling
 pence for the verpe sinooke that comes out of pooze mens chemnies,
 shamest thou not vplandish vpstart to heare me discourse thy imper-
 fections, get thee home againe into thy owne country, and let me as I
 was wont lue famous in my native home in England where I was
 borne and bred, yea and bearded Caesar thy countryman til he com-
 pass the conquest by treason. The right and title in this country base
 bzat(qd beluet bzatches) now authozity fauours me, I am admitted
 viceroy, & I will make thee do me homage, & confesse that thou holdest
 thy being and residence in my land from the gracious fauour of my
 sufferance, and with that he laid hold on the hilts of his rapper, and
 cloth bzatches betooke him to his staff, when I stepping betwixt them
 parted them thus. Why what meane ye, will you decide your con-
 tronerie by blowes, when you may debate it by reason, this is a
 land of peace, gouerned by true iusticiaries & honozable magistrats,
 where you shall haue equitie without partiality, and therefore listen
 to me & discusse the matter by lawe, your quarrell is, whether of you
 are most antient and most worthy, you sir, boast of your country and
 parentage, he of his native birth in England, you claime al, he would
 haue but his owne, both plead an absolute title of residence in this
 country, then must the cause be left to the iudiciall or disicion
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of franke tenement, you Veluet breeches in that you claime the first title you shall bee plaintiffe, and plead a trespassse of desseison doone you by cloth breeches, so shall it be brought to a iurie, and tried by a verdict of twelue or fower and twenty. Tush, tush, quoth Veluet breeches, I neither like to be plaintiffe, nor yet allow of a iurie, for they may be partiall, and so condemne me in mine owne action, for the country swaines cannot value of my worth nor can mine honours come within the compasse of their base wits, because I am a stranger in this land, & but heere lately arriued, they wil hold me as an vpstart, & so lightly esteeme of my worthinesse, and for my aduersary is their countriman & lesse chargeable, hee shall haue the lawe mitigated, if a iury of hinds or pesaunts should bee inpanelled, if antient Gentlemen, yeomen, or plaine ministers should bee of the quest I were sure to lose the day because they loath mee, in that I haue perswaded so many landlozdes for the maintenance of my brauerie to raise their rentes. You seeke a knot in a rush (quod I) you need not doubt of that, for whome you distrust & think not indifferent, him you vpon a cause manifested, challeng from your iurie, If your law allowe such large fauour (quoth Veluet breeches) I am content my title be tried by a iurie, and therefore let mine aduersary plead me Nul tort Nul disseison Cloth breeches was content with this, and so they both agreed I should bee iudge and iuroz in this controuersie, whereupon I wisht them to say for themselues what they could, that I might discours to the Iurie what reasons they alledged of their Titles: then Veluet breeches began thus. I cannot but greeue that I should be thus out-fact with a carters weed onely fit for husbandry, seeing I am the originall of al honourable endeuours: to what end both yecuth bestow their wits on law, phisicke, or Theology, were it not the ende they aime at, is the wearing of me and wining of preferment, Honor norisheth Art, and for the regarde of dignity, do learned men strue to excede in their faculty.

Impiger extremos currit Mercator ad indos,
Per mare, per saxa, &c.

What driues the merchants to seeke forren marketes, to venter their goods and hazard their liues? not, if still the end of their trauell were a paire of cloth breeches, no, veluet, costly atire, curious and quaint apparell is the spur that pricketh them forward to attempt such danger. Wot not the Souldiours fight to be braue, the Lawyer study to

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countenance himselfe with cost, the artificer takes paines only for my sake that wearing me he may brag it amongst the best, what credite carries he now adales that goes pind vp in a Cloth breech, who will keepe him companie that thinkes well of himselfe, vnlesse he vse the simple slaue to make cleane his shoone, the woordes are chaunged and men are growen to more wit, and their mindes to aspire after more honozable thoughts, they were Dunces in Diebus illis, they had not the true vse of gentility, and therefore they liued meanelly and died obscurely, but now mennes capacities are refined, time hath set a new edge on gentlemens humors, and they shew them as they should bee, not like glottons as their fathers did, in chines of bafe and almes to the pooze, but in beluets, sattins, cloth of gold, pearle, yea pearle lace, which scarce Caligula wore on his birth day, and to this honourable humor haue I brought these gentlemen since I came from Italy. What is the end of service to a man but to countenance himselfe and credite his maister with braue suites, the scurvy tapsters and offlers sex populi fill pots, and rubbe horsehecles, to pranke themselves with my gloze, alas were it not to wear me, why would so many apply themselves to extraordinary idlenes? Beside, I make fooles be reuerent, and thought wise amongst the common sort, I am a seuerer sensor to such as offend the law, prouided there be a penalty annexed that may bring in some profite, yea by me the chæfest part of the realme is gouerned, and therefore I refer my title to the verdit of any men of iudgment. To this mildly Cloth breeches answered thus.

As I haue had alwayes that honest humor in mee to measure all estates by their vertues, not by their apparell, so did I neuer grudge at the brauery of any whome birth, time, place, or dignity made woorthy of such costly ornaments, but if by the fauour of their Prince and their owne desarts they merited them, I helde both lawfull and commendable to answer their degrees in apparell, correspondent vnto their dignities. I am not so precise directly to inueigh against the vse of beluet, either in breeches or in other suites, nor will I haue men goe like John Baptist, in coates of Camels hair. Let Princes haue their Diademes, and Caesar what is due to Caesar, let Noblemen goe as their birth requires, and Gentlemen as they are borne or beare office, I speake in mine owne defence, for the antient Gentilitye and yeomanrie of Englande, and inueigh against none, but such malapart vpstart as raised vp from the Plough, or advanced for their Italian deuises, or for their witleffe wealth, couet in brauerye to match

an vpstart Courtier.

match, may to exceed the greatest Noblemen in this land.

But leauing this digression mounter veluet breeches, againe to the particulars of your fond allegation. Whereas you affirme your selfe to be both original and final end of learning, alas proud princor you pearch a bow to hie, did all the philosophers beat their braines, and busie their wits to weare veluet breeches: Why both at that time thou wert vnknowne, yea vnborne, and all excesse in apparell had in high contempt, and now in these daies all men of worth, are taught by reading, that excesse is a great sin: that pride is the first step to the Downefall of shame. They study with Tully, that they may seeme borne for their countries as well as for themselves. The Deuine to iustice, the Philition to discover the secretes of Cades wonders, by working strange cures: to be briefe, the end of all being, as to knowe God, And not as your worship good maister veluet breeches wexes to creep into acquaintance.

I will not denie, but there be as fantastical fooles as your selfe, that perhaps are puffed up with such presuming thoughts, and ambitiously aime to trick themselves in your worships masking suits, but while such climbe for great honours, they often fall to great shames. It may be thereupon you bring in Honos alit Artes, but I gesse your maistership neuer tried what true honour meant, that trusse it vpe within the compasse of a paire of veluet breeches, and place it in the arrogancy of the hart, no, no: say hono^r is idolatry, for they make soles of themselves, and idols of their carcases: but he that valueth honour so, shall reade a lecture out of Apuleius golden asse, to learne him more wit. But now sir by your leaue, a blow with your next argument which is, that marchants hazard their goods and liues to be acquainted with your maistership. Indeed you are a wrie for wise men frequent marts for profit not for pride, vnlesse it be some that by wearing of veluet breeches and apparell too high for their calling, haue proued bankroutes in their youth, and haue beene glad in their age to desire my acquaintance, and to trusse up their tails in homespun russet: whereas thou dost obiect the valour of hardy souldiers to grow for the desire of braue apparell. This is false, and I knowe if any were present, they would proue vpon thy bones that thou wert a liar: for their countreys good, their princes seruice, the defence of their friends the hope of fauor is the finall ende of their resolutions: esteeming not
only

A quippe

only them but the woꝝlde gloꝝy, fickle, tꝛansitoꝝy, & inconstant. What I fetch from thine own country, weapons to wound thy selfe withall. What saist thou to Cincinnatus, was he not caled to be Dictatoꝝ from the plough, and after many victoꝝies, what did he iet vp and downe the court in costly garments and beluet bꝛaches? No, he dispised dignitie, contemned vaine gloꝝie and pꝛide, and returned againe to his quiet contented life in the country. How much did Caius Fabritius value their Numa pompilius, Scevola, Scipio, Epaminodas, Aristides, they held themselves woꝝmes meate, and counted pꝛide vanity, and yet thou art not ashamed to say, thou art the ende of soldioꝝrs woꝝthy honoꝝ. I tell thee saueꝝ skipiack, it was a good and a blessed time here in England, when K. Stephen woꝝe a pair of cloth bꝛaches of a Noble a payꝛe, and thought them passing costlye, then did hee count Westminster hal to litle to be his dining chamber & his almes was not bare bones, in stead of broken meat but lusty chines of beefe fel into the poꝝe mens basket. When charity flourished in the Court, and yoong Courtiers stroue to excede one an other in vertue, not in bzauery: they rode not with fans to ward their faces from the wind, but with Burgant to resist the stroke of a Battlere, they could then better exhoꝝt a solodoꝝ to armoꝝ then court a lady with amozets, they caused the trumpet to sounde them pointes of warre, not Ports to wꝛite them wanton Eligies of loue: they soght after honoꝝable fame, but hunted not after fading honoꝝ: which distinction by the way take thus. There be some that seeke honour, and soome are sought after by honoꝝ. Such upstarts as fetch their pedigree from their fathers ancient leather apzon, and creepe into the court with great humility, ready at the first Balsciare li piedi di la vostra signoria hauing gotten the countenance of some Nobleman, will strait be a kindꝛed to Cadwalller, and sweare his great grand mother was one of the Burgeses of the parliamente house, will at last steale by degrees into some credite by their double diligence, and then winde some woꝝshipfull place as far as a hungry sow can smell a fir reuerence, and then with all their frends seeke day and night with copne and countenance till they haue got it. Others there be whome honoꝝ it selfe seekes, and such be they whome vertue doth frame fit foꝝ that purpose, that rising by high desarts, as learning, oꝝ valour, merite moꝝe then eyther they looke foꝝ, oꝝ their pꝛince hath anye ease conueniently to bestow on them. Such honoꝝ seekes & they with a blushing conscience entertain him, be they neuer

an vpstart Courtier.

neuer so high in fauour, yet they beg no office, as the shamelesse vpstart doth, that hath a hungry eie, to spy out an impudent face to sue, and a flattring toong to intreat for some void place of worship, which little belonged to them, if the prince intended to bestow offices for vertue not fauor. Other such velvet breeches there be of your cue, that pinch their bellies to polish their backs, that keepe their matwes empty, to fill their purses that haue no shewe of gentillity but a velvet stop, who by poling or selling of land that their father left, will bestow all to buye an office about the Court that they may be worshipfull, extorting from the poore, to raise vp their money that the base deceyuing companions haue laid out to haue an office of some countenance and credit, wherein they may haue of me better then themselves, bee tearmed by the name of worship. The last whome vertue pleadeth for, and neyther silver, gold, friendes, nor fauour aduanceth, be men of great worth, such as are thought of worship, and unwillinglie intertaine hir, rather boughassing profered honour for their Countreys cause, then for any proud opinion of hoped for preferment.

Blessed are such Landes whose officers are so placed, and where the Prince promoteth not for coine nor counterance, but for his worthy deserving vertues. But leaning this by-talke, me thought I heard you say Signior Velvet breeches, that you were the father of Mechanicall Arts, & handie craftes were found out to foster your brauery. In faith goodman gooselap, you that are come from the start, vps, and therefore is called an vpstart, quasi start vp from clowted shoone, your lippes hoong in your light when you brought forth this Lodgike: for I hope there is none so simple, but knowes that handie craftes and occupations grew for necessitie not pride: that mens inuentions waxed sharpe to profit the Common wealth, not to pranke vp themselves in brauery. I pray you when Tubulcane inuented tempring of mettals had he velvet breeches to weare? In sadnesse, where was your worship when his brother found out the accords & discords of Musick hidden in hell, and not yet thought on by the Diuell, to call forth as a baite to bring many proud soles to ruine?

Indeede I cannot deny, but your worship hath brought in deceit as a tourneyman into all companies, and made that a subtle craft, which while I was holden in esteem was but a simple misterie: now euery trade hath his sleights, to flubber vpp his worke to the eie, and to make it good to the sale, howe soeuer it proues in the wearing.

A quippe for

The shoemaker cares not if his shewes hold the drawing on: the Tayloz sowes with hot needle and burnt thred. Lusty pride hath banisht conscience, and veluet breeches honestie, and euery seruile dudge must ruffle in his silkes, or else he is not suteable.

The world was not so A principio, for when Veluet was woꝛne but in kings caps, then Conscience was not a Bꝛome man in Kent streat but a Courtier, then the Farmer was content his sonne should hold the Plough, and liue as he had done befoze: Beggars then feared to aspire, and the higher sort scorned to enuie. Now euery lowt must haue his sonne a Courtroll, and those dunghil dudges were so proud, that they will presume to wear on their feet, what kings haue woꝛne on their heads. A Clownces sonne must be clapt in a Veluct pantopple, & a veluet breech, though the presumptuous asse be dꝛownd in the Mercers booke, and make a conuey of al his lands to the vsurer for commodities: yea the sop must goe like a Gallant for a while, although at last in his age he beg. But indeed, such yong youths when the Broker hath blest them with saint Needams crosse, fall then to pꝛiuy lifts and cosenages, and when their credit is vtterly crakt they pꝛactise some bad shift, and so come to a shamefull end.

Lastly, whereas thou saist thou art a seuerer censour to punish sine, as austere as Cato to correct vice, of truth I hold thee so in penal Statutes when thou hast begged the forfeit of the Prince: but such correction is open extortion and oppression of the poore, nor can I compare it better wth veluet breech, then to the Wolfe chastising the lamb for disturbing the Fountaine, or the Deuil casting forth Demills through the power of Belzebub. And thus much courteous sir I haue said, to display the follies of mine aduersary, and to shewe the right of mine owne interest. Why then quoth I, if you haue both saide, it resteth but that we hadde some to empanel vpon a Iurie, and then no doubt but the verdict would soone be giuen on one side. As thus I was talking to them, I might see comming downe the hil a Braue dapper Dicke, quaintly attired in Veluet and Sattin, and a Cloake of cloth rash, with a cambzick ruffe as smoothly set, and he as neatly spunged as if he had bene a bzidegrome, only I gess by his pale a far off he should be a Tayloz, his head was holden vppes so pert, and his legges shackle band, as if his knees had bene laced to his Thighes with points. Comming moze nere indeed, I spied a Tailoꝛs moꝛice pike on his bꝛest, a spanish needle, and then I fitted my Salutations,
not

an vpstart Courtier.

not to his lutes but to his trade, and incountred him by a threed bare courtesy, as if I had not knowne him, and asked him of what occupation he was: A Tayloz, quoth he, marry then my friend quoth I, you are the moze welcome, for heere is a great quarrell growne betwixt veluet breeches and cloth breeches, for their prerogatiue in England: the matter is growne to an issue, there must a Jury be empannelled, and I would desire and intreat you to be one of the quest.

Not so quoth cloth breeches, I challenge him. And why quoth I? What reason haue you, dooth he not make them both? yes, quoth he, but his gaine is not alike: alas, by me he getteth small, onely he is paid for his workmanship, vnlesse by misfortune his shires shyppe a wyre, and then his Mailes is but a shred of homespunne cloth, wher as in making of Veluet breeches, where there is required silke Lace, cloth of Golde, of Silver, and such costly stuffe, to welt, guard, whip stitch, edge, face, and draw out, that the vales of one veluet breech, is moze then twenty paire of mine. I hope there is no Tayloz so precise, but he can play the coke and lick his owne fingers: though he look vp to Heauen, yet he can cast large shreds of such rich stuffe into hel vnder his shoppe boord. Beside, he sets downe like the Clarke of the Check a large bil of reckonings, which for he keepes long in his pocket he so powders for stinking, that the yong vpstart that needes it, feels it salt in his stomach a month after. Beside sir, veluet breeches hath aduansed him: for whereas in my time he was counted but goodman Tayloz, now he is growne since veluet breeches came in, to be called a marchant or Gentleman marchant Tayloz, giuing armes and the holy Lambe in his creast, where before he had no other Cognisance, but a plaine spanish needle with a Welch cricket on the top: sith then his gaine is so great and his honour so aduansed by Veluet breeches. I will not trust his conscience, nor shall hee come vpon my Jury.

Indeed you haue some reason quoth I, but perhaps the Tayloz doth this vpon mair deuotion to punish pride, and hauing no other authoritie nor meane, thinkes it best to pinch them by the purse and make them pay wel, as to aske twise so much silke lace and other stuffe as would suffice, and yet to ouerreach my yong maister with abill of reckonings that will make him scratch where it itcheth not. Herein I hold the Tayloz for a necessarie member to teach yong nouices the way to weeping crosse: that when they haue wasted what their fa-

A quippe for

thers left them by pride, they may grow sparing and humble by inferred pouerty: and by this reason the tayloz plaies Gods part: hee exalteth the poore and pulleth down the proude: for of a wealthy Esquires son, he makes a thredbare beggar: and of a scoznesfull Tayloz, he sets vp an vpstart scurvy Gentleman. Yet seeing you haue made a reasonable challenge to him, the Tailor shall be none of the quest.

As I had him stand by, there was comming alongst the balley towards vs, a square set fellow well fed, and as briskly apparelled, in a blacke taffata doublet and a spruce leather Jerkin with Chyrtall buttons: a cloke fast afoze with veluet, and a Couentry cap of the finest wool his face something Ruby blush, cherry checked, like a shzed of scarlet or a little darker, like the lees of olde Claret wine: a nose autem nose purpled pretiously with pearle and stone, like a counterfeit worke, and betwene the filthy reumicast of his bloudshoten snout, there appeared smal holes, whereat wormes heads peeped, as if they meant by their appearance to preach and shew the antiquity and antientie of his house.

This fiery faced churle had vpon his fingers as many golde ringes as would furnish a Goldsmiths shop, or beseme a Pandoz of long profession to weare. Wondring what companion this should be, I inquired of what occupation: marry sir quoth he, a Broker, why do you aske, haue you any pawnes at my house? No quoth I, nor by the help of God neuer will haue: but the reason is to haue you vpon a Jurye. At this word befoze I could enter my discourse vnto him, veluetbeches start vp, and swoze he should be none of the quest, for he woulde challenge him. And why, quoth I, what knowe you by him? This base Churle is one of the moaths of the Common wealth, beside he is the spoile of yoong Gentlemen, A bloudsucker of the poore, as thirsty as a Wozeleach, that wil neuer leaue drinking while he burst, a knaue that hath interest in the Leases of Fourtie Balwy houses, a receyuer for Lifts, and a dishonorable suppozter for Cutpursses, To conclude, he was gotten by an Incubus a he Diuel, and brought forth by an ouerwozne refuse, that had spent hir youth vnder the ruines of Wolbies barne.

A monstrous inuective, quoth I, what reason haue ye to bee thus bitter against him? Oh the villaine, quoth he, is the Devils factoz, sent from hel to torment yoong Gentlemen vpon earth: he hath fetcht me ouer in his time, onely in pawnes, in ten thousand pound in gold.

Suppose

an vpstart Courrier.

Suppose as Gentlemen through their liberall minds may want that
I need, money: let me come to him with a pawne worth ten pound,
he will not lend vpon it aboue thze pound, and he will haue a bill of
sale and twelue pence in the pound for every month, so that it comes
to sixtene pence, sith the bil must monthlie be renewed, and if you
bzeake but your day set downe in the bill of sale, your pawne is losse,
as full bought and sold, you turned out of your goodes, and he an vn-
conscionable gainer. Suppose the best, you keepe your day, yet pai-
yng sixtene pence a month for twenty shillings, you pay as good for
the lone as foure scoze in the hundred, is not this monstrous exacting
vpon Gentlemen? Beside the knaue wil be diligently attending and
waiting at dicing houses where we are at play, and there he is ready
to lend the loaser money vpon Rings and Chaines, apparell or any
other good pawne, but the poze Gentleman paies so deere for the La-
uender it is laid vp in, that if it lie long at a Bzokers house he seemes
to buy his apparel twice. Nay this woyme eaten wretch hath deeper
pytfals yet to trap youth in, for hee becing acquainted with a yoong
Gentleman of faire lining, in issue of good parents or assured possibi-
litie, sothes him in his monstrous expences and saies he carries the
minde of a Gentleman, promising if he want he shall not lacke for a
hundred pound or two, if the Gentleman need: then hath my bzoker
an Usurer at hand as ill as himselfe, and he bzings the mony but they
tie the poze soule in such Darbies bandes, what with receiuing ill
Commodities and forfeitures vpon the band, that they dub him Sir
John had land befoze they leaue him, and share like wolues the poze
nouices wealth betwixt them as a pray. He is (sir) to bee bzesse, a
bowtie Balwy miser, good for none but himselfe and his trugge, a
Carle that hath a filthy carcass without a conscience, a body of a man
wherein an infernall spirit in stead of a soule dooth inhabit, the scum
of the seven deadly sinnes, an enimie to all good mindes, a deuourer
of yoong Gentlemen, and to conclude my mortall enemye and there-
fore admit of my chaleng, and let him be none of the Jury. Truly (qd
Cloth bzèches) I am willing he should be discarded too, for were
not bad Bzokers (I wil not condemn al) there would be lesse filching
and fewer Thieves, for they receiue al is brought them, and buye
that for a Crowne that is woorth twenty shillings, desire of gaine
bindes their conscience, and they care not how it be come by, so they
buy it cheape. Beside they extorte vpon the poze that are inforced
through

A quippe for

thzough extreame want to pawne their cloathes and household stuff, their pewter and bzaſſe, and if the pooze ſoules that labour hard miſſe but a day, the baſe minded bzoker takes the ſozſeit without remoꝛſe oꝛ pitie, it was not ſo in Diebus illis, but thou pzoude byſtart Weluet bzæches haſt learnd all Engliſhmen their villany, and all to mayntaine thy bzauerye: yea, I haue knowne of late when a pooze woman laide a ſiluer thimble that was ſent hir from hir frends ſoz a toke to pawne ſoz ſix pence, & the bzoker made hir pay a halſepeny a weeke ſoz it, which comes to two ſhillings a yere, ſoz ſix pence: ſith then his conſcience is ſo bad, let him be ſhuffled out amongſt the knaues ſoz a diſcarded carde, Content qd. I (& had the bzoker ſtand backe, when there were euen at my heeles thzæ in a cluſter pert youths all, and neatly ticed, I queſtioned them what they were, and the one ſaid hee was a barber, the other a ſurgeon, and the third an Apoticary. How like you of theſe (qd. I) ſhal they be of your Jury? Of the Jury, qd, Cloth bzæches, neuer a one by my conſent, ſoz I challenge them all: your reaſon qd. I, and then you ſhall haue my bedict Mary (qd Cloth bzæches) firſt to the barber he can not be but a partiall man on beluet bzæches ſide, ſith he gets moze by one time dzeſſing of him, than by ten times dzeſſing of mee, I come plaine to be polde, and to haue my beard cut, and pay him two pence, beluet bzæches hee ſits downe in the chaire wꝛapt in fine cloaths, as though the barber were about to make him a ſotcloth ſoz the bickar of ſaint ſoles, then begins hee to take his ſſars in his hand & his comb, and ſo to ſnap with them as if he meant to geue a warning to al the lice in his nitty locks ſoz to pzepare themſelues, ſoz the day of their deſtruction was at hande, then comes he out with his ſuſtian eloquence & making a low conge, ſaith Sir will you haue your woꝛ haire cut after the Italian maner, ſhort and round, and then frounſt with the curling yꝛongs, to make it looke like a halſemone in a miſt: oꝛ like a ſpanyard long at the eares, and curled like to the two endes of an olde caſt perritwig, oꝛ will you bee Frenched with a loue locke do wne to your ſhoulders, wherein you may weare your miſtris fauour? the Engliſh cut is baſe and Gentle, men ſcoꝛne it, nouelty is dainty, ſpeake the woꝛd ſir, my ſſars are ready to erecute your woꝛſhips wil. His head being once dzeſt, which requires in combing and rubbing ſome two howzes, he comes to the baſon, then being curiouſly waſht with no wooꝛſe then a camphir bal, he deſcends as low as his beard, & asketh whether he pleaſe to be
thane n

for an vpstart Courtier.

shauen or no, whether he wil haue his peak cut short and sharpe, am-
able like an Inamorato or broad pendant like a spade, to be terrible
like a warrio^r & a Soldado, whether he wil haue his crates cut lowe
like a Juniper bush, or his suberches taken away with a rasor, if it be
his pleasure to haue his appendices prinde, or his mouchaches fisted
to turne about his eares like the branches of a vine, or cut down to the
lip with the Italian lash, to make him look like a halfe faced bauby in
bras. These quaint tearms Barber you greet maister veluet breeches
withal, & at euery word a snap with your fissors and a cring with your
knee, wheras when you come to p^{ro}se Cloth breeches, you either cutte
his beard at your owne pleasure, or else in disdain aske him if he will
be trimd with Chzists cut, round like the halfe of a holland cheese, moc-
king both Chzist and vs: for this your knauery my wil is you shall be
none of the Jury. For you maister Surgeon, the statutes of England
exempts you from being of any quest, and beside, alas, I sildome fall
into your hands as being quiet & making no brawls to haue wounds,
as swartrutting veluet breeches dooth, neither doe I frequent whoze-
houses to catch the Harbles, and so to grow your patient, I knowe
you not, and therefore I appeale to the statute, you shall haue nothing
to doe with my matter. And for you M. Apoticarie, alas, I looke not
once in seauen yeare into your shop, without it be to buy a penitworth
of wormeseed to giue my child to drinke, or a little triacle to drine out
the meafels, or perhaps some dregs and powders to make my sicke
horse a drench withal, but for my selfe, if I be ill at ease, I take Mit-
thyen physick, I make my wife my Doctor, and my Garden my Apo-
ticaries shop, whereas quesse maister veluet breeches cannot haue a
fart a wyse, but he must haue his purgations, pile, and glisters, or e-
uacuate by electuaries, he must if the least spot of mo^rphe w come on
his face, haue his oyle of Tartar, his Lac virginis, his camphir dissolved
in veriuice, to make the soles as faire for sooth, as if hee were to playe
Maiderian in a may game or mo^ris-daunce, tush he cannot digest
his meat without conserues, nor end his meale without suckats, nor
(shall I speake plainly) please the trug his mistres without hee goe
to the Apothecaries, for Cringion, Oleum formicarum alatarum &
aqua mirabilis of ten pound a pint, if maister veluet breeches with dri-
king these drugs hap to haue a stinking breath, then forsooth the Apo-
ficarie must play the perfumer to make it sweet, nay what is it about
him that he blamieth not nature for framing, and formeth it a new by-
art

A quippe for

art, and in all this who but mountier the Apoticarie, therefore good
sir (quoth he) seeing you haue taken vpon you to be triou for the chal-
lenges, let those three as partiall companions be packing. Why (qd.
I) seeing you haue yelded such reason of refusall, let them stande by:
presentlie looking about for more, comes stalking down an aged grane
sir, in a black veluet coat and a blacke cloth gowne welted and faced,
and after him as I suppose, foure seruicemen, the moste illfaoured
knaues me thought that euer I saw, one of them had on a Busse lea-
ther Jerken all greasie befoze with the droppinges of beere that fell
from his beard, and by his side a skeine like a Bzuers bounge knife,
and muffled hee was in a cloke turnd ouer his nose, as though he had
beene ashamed to shew his face. The second had a belly like a Buc-
kingtub, and a thredbare black coat vnbbuttoned befoze vpon the brest,
whereon the map of drunkennesse was drawne, with the balddie and
bowlie excrements that dropt from his filthy leaking mouth. The
third was a long leane old slauering slangrill with a Basill staffe in
the one hand, and a whipcord in the other, so pourblinde that hee had
like to haue stumbled vpon the company befoze he sawe them. The
fourth was a fat chuffe, with a sower looke, in a blacke cloke faced
with taffata, and by his side a great side pouch like a Fauikner, for
their faces all foure seemed to be bethzen, they were so burnbasted
with the flocks of strong beere, and lined with the laces of clte & acke,
that they lookt like foure blowne bladders painted ouer with redde
Waker, or washt ouer with the luds of an old skale die. All these, as
well the maister as the following mates woulde haue past away, but
that I kept befoze them & inquired first of the foremost what he was,
Mary qd. he, a Lawyer, then sir qd. I, wee haue a matter in contro-
uersie that requireth counsaile, & you are the more welcome. What
is it qd. he, Mary said I, whether clothbatches or veluet batches are
of more worth, and which of them hath the best title to bee resident
in England? At this the Lawyer smild, and veluet batches stepping
forth tooke acquaintance of him, and commending his honestie, sayde
there could not be a man of better indifferency of the iury: when cloth
batches stepping in swoze he maruelled hee was not as well as the
Surgion exempted by act of parliament from being of any quest, sith
as the surgion was without pittie, so he was without conscience, and
therevpon inferd his challenge, sayng the Lawyer was neuer friend
to clothbatches, for when loholinesse, neighbourhood, and hospitalitie
lined

an vpsstart Courtier.

Hued in England, Westminster hal was a dining chamber not a den
 of controuersies, when the king himselfe was content to keepe his
 Georges day in a plaine paire of Kerse hose, when the Duke, earle,
 lord, knight, Gentleman and esquire, aimed at vertue, not pride, &
 wore such breeches as was spun in his house, then the lawyer was
 a simple man, and in the highest degree was but a bare scriuener,
 except Judges of the land which took in hands serious matters, as
 treasons, murders, felones, and such capitall offences, but sildome
 was there any pleas put in before that proud vpsstart velvet breeches,
 for his maintaynance inuented strang controuersies, and since he be-
 gan to dominie in England, he hath busd such a proud busy couetous
 & incroching humo: into every mans head, that Lawyers are growne
 to be one of the chiefe lims of the common wealth, for they doe nowe
 adales de lana caprina rixare, go to lawe if a hen doe but scrape in his
 orchard, but howsoeuer right be, might carries away the verdict: if
 a poore man sue a Gentleman, why he shootes vp to the skie, and the
 arrowe fells on his owne head, howsoeuer the cause goe the weakest
 is thrust to the wall, lawyers are troubled with the heat of the liver,
 which makes the palms of their hands so hot that they cannot be cold
 vnlesse they be rubbd with the oile of angels, but the poore man that
 giues but his bare fee, or perhaps pleads in forma pauperis, he hunt-
 eth for hares with a taber, and gropeth in the darke to find a needle in
 a bottle of hay, tush these lawyers haue such delatoz & forren pleas
 such dozmers, such quibs and quiddits, that beggering their clients
 they purchase to themselves whole lordships, it woteth not men to dis-
 course their little conscience, & great extortion, only suffice they be
 not so rich as they be bad, and yet they be but to welthy. I inueigh
 not against law nor honest lawyers, for ther be some wel qualified, but
 against extorting Ambodexters that wzing the poore, and because I
 knowe not whether this be such a one or no, I challeng him not to be
 of my Jury. Why then, qd. I, his worship may depart, and then I
 questioned what he in the buff ierkin was, Mary quoth hee, I am a
 serieant, hee had no sooner said so but velvet breeches leapt backe,
 and drawing his rapier, sware hee did not only challeng him for his
 iurpe, but protested if hee stird one foote toward him, hee would
 make him eate a peece of his poinard. And what is the reason qd. I,
 that there is such mortal hatred betwixt you & the serieant? Oh sir qd.
 velvet breeches, search him, & I warrant you y knowe hath precept
 vppon precept to arrest mee,

D

hath

Aquippe for

hath woꝛne his mace smoth, with onely claping it vpon my shoulder
 he hath had me vnder coram so often, ob pꝛepꝛat is pꝛisurrs ex-
 ecutioner to bꝛing such Gentlemen to Limbo as he hath ouerthꝛown
 with his bale bꝛocage and bad commodities: and as you see him a fat
 knaue with a foggie face, wherein a cup of old sacke hath sett a seale,
 to marke the bowle dzunkard to die of the dzopfie, so his conscience is
 consumed, and his hart robb of all remorse and pitie, that for money
 he wil betray his owne father, for wil a cozmoꝛant but see him to ar-
 rest a yoong Gentleman, the rakebel wil be so eager to catch him, as
 a dogge to take a beare by the eares in pꝛarish garden, and when he
 hath laid hold vpon him, he vseth him as courteously as a butchers car
 would doe an ore cheeke when he is hungry, if he see the Gentleman
 hath money in his purse, then straight with a cap and knee he carries
 him to the tauerne and bids him send for some of his frends to bale
 him, but first he couenants to haue some bꝛase of agels for his paines
 and besides he cals in for wine as greedily as if the knaues mother
 had beene bꝛocht against a hogshhead when he was begotten, but sup-
 pose the Gentleman wants pence, he wil either haue a pawne or else
 dzige him to the counter without respecte of manhood or honestye, I
 should spend the whole day with displayeng his villanies, therefore
 bꝛeely let this suffice, he was neuer made by the consent of God, but
 his flouently carcase was framed by the Diuell, of the rotten carian of
 a wolfe, and his soule of an vsurers damned ghost turnd out of hell
 into his body to do monstrous wickednesse again vpon the earth, so that
 he shal be none of my iurie, neither shal he come nearer me then the
 length of my rapper will suffer him. Andade quoth Cloth-bꝛaches
 generally sericants be bad, but there be amongst them some honest
 men, that will doe their duties with lawfull fauour: for, to say truth, if
 sericants were not, how should men come by their debts (marry they
 are so cruel in their office, that if they arrest a poore man, they will
 not suffer him (if he hath not money) to stay a quarter of an houre to
 talke with his creditoꝝ, although perhaps at the meeting they might
 take composition, but only to the counter with him vnlesse he wil lay
 his pewter, bꝛasse, conerlets, sheets, or such household stuffe, to them
 for pawne of payment of some coine for their staieng: therefore let him
 depart out of the place, for his roome is better then his companie.
 Well then quoth I, what say you to these thꝛe, and with that I
 questioned their names, the one said hee was a Sumner, the other

an vpstart Courtier.

a Gaoler, and the third an Inſourner: Ieſus bleſſe me (quoth Cloth
bꝛaches) what a thing was here gathered together, no doubt Hell is
broke looſe, and the Diuel meanes to keepe holiday, I make challeng
againſt them al, as againſt worſe men than thoſe that gave euidence
againſt Chriſt: ſoꝝ the Sumner it boots me to ſay little moꝝe againſt
him, then Chaucer did in his Canturbury tales, who ſaid hee was a
knaue a bziber, and a batw, but leauing that authoritie although it be
authentically. yet thus much I can ſay of my ſelfe, that theſe drunken
bꝛoſe ſonns go a tooting abroad (as they themſelues tearm it) which
is to here if any man hath got his maid with child oꝝ plates the good
fellow with his neighbours wiſe, if he finde a hole in any mans coate
that is of wealth, then he hath his peremptorie ſcitation ready to ſcite
him vnto the Archdeacons oꝝ officials court, there to apeere & abide the
ſhame and penaltie of the lawe, the man perhaps in good credit with
his neighbours, loath to bzing his name in queſtion, greeſeth the Sum-
ner in the fiſt, and then he wipes him out of the booke, & ſuffers him
to get twentie with child ſo he keepe him warme in the hand: he hath
a ſaieng to wanton wines, & they are his good dames, and as long as
they ſee him with cheeſe bacon capons, & ſuch od reuerſions they are
honeſt, and be they neuer ſo bad, he ſwears to the official complaints
are made vpon enuie, and the women of good behauior: tuiſhe what
batwoꝝy is it he will not ſuffer, ſo he may haue money and good chere
and if he like the wench well a ſnatch himſelfe ſoꝝ they knowe all the
whoꝝes in a country, & are as lecherous companions as may be, to be
bꝛaſe, the ſumner liues vpon ſins of people, & out of harlotry gets he
al his commoditie. As ſoꝝ the Gaoler, although I haue beene little
troubled in priſon to haue experience of his knauery, yet haue I hard
the pooꝝe priſoners complaine how cruel they be to them, extorting
with extraoꝝdinarie fees, ſelling a duble curtall (as they cal it) with
a duble iuge of beere ſoꝝ 2 pence, which containes not aboue a pint &
a halfe: let a pooꝝe man be arreſted into one of the counters, though he
but ſet his foot in the but halfe an hour, he ſhal be almoſt at an angels
charge, what with garniſh, croſſing and wiping out of the booke,
turning the key, paieng the chamberline, ſeing ſoꝝ his iurie, and
twenty ſuch extortions inuented by themſelues, and not allowed by
any ſtatute, God bleſſe me gaoler from your denhouſes, as I wil keep
you from coming in my queſt, and to you M. Inſourner, you that
looks like a ciuile Citizen, oꝝ ſome handſome petty-fogger of the law:

A quippe

although your crimson nose bewayes you can supe of a coole cup of sacke without anye chewing, yet haue you as much flye knauery in your side pouch there, as would bꝛeade the confusion of fortye honest men. It may bee sir you maruell whye I exclaime against the Infourmer sith he is a most necessarie member in the commonwealth, and is highly to the Princes aduantage for the benifite of pennall statutes and other abuses, whereof he giveth special intelligence? To wipe out this doubt, I speake not against the Office but the Officer, against such as abuse lawe when they should vse it, and such a one I gesse this fellowe to be, by the carnation tincture of his ruby nose. Therefore let vs search his bagge, and see what trash you shal finde in it: with that although the Infourmer were very loathe, yet wee pluckt out the stuffing of his pouch, and in it was found a hundred & od wꝛites: Whereat I woundꝛed: & Clothbꝛaches smiling bad me read the Labels, and the parties names, and then examine the Infourmer how many of them he knewe, and wherein they had offended. I followed his counsaile, and of al hee knewe but thꝛee, neither could he tel what they had done amisse to be arrested, and brought in question.

Clothbꝛaches seeing me stand in amase began thus to resolue me in my doubt. Perhaps, quoth he, you maruell, whye the Infourmer hath al these wꝛittes, and knowes neither the parties noꝛ can obiecte any offence to them? To this I answered: that it being a long vacation, hee learned in the rowle al those mens names, and that they were men of indifferent wealth: Now means he to goe abroad, and search them out and arrest them, and though they know not wherein, oꝛ for what cause they should be troubled, yet rather then they will come vpp to London and spend their money, they will bestow some odde Angell vppon matter Infourmer, & so sit at home in quiet. But suppose some be so stubboꝛne as to stand to the triall, yet can this cuning knave declare a Tamquam against them, so that though they be cleared, yet can they haue no recompence at all, soꝛ that he doth it in the courtes behalfe. I wil not vnfold al his villanies, but he is an abuser of good lawes & a very knave, & so let him be, with his fellowes. I both woundꝛed and laught to heare Clothbꝛaches make this discourse, when I saw two in the ball ye together by the eares, the one in leather, the other as blacke as the Deuill: I stept to them to part the fraie, and questioned

questioned what they were, and wherefoze they brauled: Harry quoth hee, that lookt like Lucifer, though I am blacke, I am not the Deuill, but indeed a Colyer of Greybe, and one sic that haue sold many a man a false sacre of coales, that booth wanted measure, and was halfe full of dust and brosse. Anded I haue beene a Lieger in my time in London, and haue played many madde pranches, for which cause, you may apparantly see I am made a curtall, for the Pillozy (in the sight of a great many good and sufficient witnesses,) hath eaten off booth my eares, and now sir this Kopermaker hunteth me here with his halters, I gesse him to be some euill spirite, that in the likenesse of a manne, would since I haue past the Pillozy, perswade me to hange my selfe for my olde offenses, and therefore sith I cannot blesse me from him with Nomine patris, I lay spiritus Sanctus about his shoulders with a good crabe tree cudgell, that hee may get out of my company. The Kopermaker replied, that honestly iourneying by the way, hee acquainted himselfe with the Collyer, and for no other cause pretended. Honest with the Deuill, quoth the Colliar, how can he be honest, whose mother I gesse was a witch, for I haue harde them say, that witches say their prayers backward, and so dooth the Kopermaker yearne his living by going backward, and the knaues chafe living is by making fatall instrumentes, as halters and ropes, which diuers desperat men hang themselves with. Well quoth I, what say you to these, shall they be on the Yarle? Weluet breeches said nothing, but Cloth breeches said, in the Kopermaker he found no great falsehood in him, therefore hee was willing hee should be one, but for the Collyer, hee thought it necessary, that as he came so he should depart, so then I had the Kopermaker stand by till moze came, which was not longe. For there came thre in a cluster. As soone as they drewe nye, I spied one, a fatte churle with a lide russet coate to his knee and his handes all to tanned with shifting his Duse, yet would I not take notice what they were, but questioned with them of their seuerall occupations. Harry quoth the first, I am a Tanner, the Second a Shoemaker, and the thirde a Currier: then turninge to the Plaintife and Defendant, I asked them if they would allowe of those parties. So by my faith quoth Cloth breeches, I make challeng vnto them al, & I wil yeeld reasons of impoyt against them: & first to you maister Tanner Are you a man wo:thy

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woorthy to be of a Jury, when your conscience cares not to tounge the whole Commonwealth, you respect not publike commodity, but priuate gaynes: not to benefite your neighbour, but so2 to make the proude princore your sonne an vpstart Gentleman, and because you would marry your Daughter, at the least to an Esquire, that shee may if it be possible, be a Gentlewoman, & how comes this to passe, by your tanne-fats so2sooth: For, whereas by the aunciente lawes and Statutes of England, you shoulde let a hide lye in the Duse, at the least nine moeths, you can make good leather of it befoze thre moneths, you haue your Doones doong, your marle your Ashen barke, and a thousande thinges moze, to bringe on your Leather apace, that it is so badly Tanned, that when it comes to the wearinge, then it flates awaye like a peece of browne paper: and whereas your backes of all other shoulde bee the best tanned, you bring them so full of horne to the market, that did you not grease the sealers of Leaden hall thzoughly in the fist, they shoulde neuer bee sealed, but turned away and made so2seite by the statute. I cannot at learge lay open your subtil practises to beguile the pooze communalty with bad leather. But let this suffice, you leaue no villanie vnsought, to bring the blockhead your sonne to goe asoze the Clowne his father, trimely frickt vp in a paire of veluet breeches.

Now maister Currier to your coolenage, you cannot be content only to burne the Leather you dresse so2 fault of liquoz, because you would make the Shoemaker pay wel and you put in little stuffe: and beside, when as in backes you shoulde onely put in Tallow hard and good, you put in softe kitchen stuffe mixt, and so make the good and well tanned Leather by your villany to fleet and wast away, but also you grow to be an extorting knane, & a so2estaller of the market, so2 you will buy Leather, sides, backes, and Calue skines, & sell them to the pooze Shoemakers at an vnrasonable rate, by your false retaylinge, getting infinite goods by that excessive price: both vndoing the pooze shoemaker, and causing vs that we pay extreainly so2 shoes. For if the Currier bought not Leather by the whole of the Tanner, the Shoemaker might haue it at a moze reasonable price: but the Shoemaker being poze, is not perhaps able to deale with a dicker of hides, no2 perhaps with a cuple of backes, & the Tanner will not trust him: then the extorting and coosening Currier comes vp with this, I will lend you so2 a day and so pincheth him, that hee is scarce able to finde his childzen bread. But well hath the Prince and the Honorable Lords

for an vpstart Courtier.

Lords of the priuie Counsaile prouided by Act of Parliamenc, that no Currier shall buy leather either backes or hides of the Tanner, so to bryde the extorting & focestalling coosenage, but craftilper and subteller hath the knaue Currier crosbitten the statute, in that he deales thus with the Tanner, he makes him hold his leather vnreasonably to the shoemaker, & so when he cannot sel it, he laies it vp in the Curriers house, vnder a colour whereas indeed he hath sold it him. Suppose this shifte be spied and pzenented: then compoundeth he with some knaue shoemaker, some base rakehell without a conscience that neither respecteth God, the Commonwealth, nor his Company, and so sooth he is halfe with the Carrier, who letteth him haue some hundred marke to laye out for leather euery month, whereas he spendes not in his shop a hundred markes worth in a yeaere: so the shoemaker buies it to abuse the statute for the Carrier, and the Carrier by that meanes vndoeth the other shoemakers: thus two crafty knaues are met and they neede no broker.

Now to you gentle craft, you masse shoemakers: you can put in the inner sole, of a thin Calues skin, when as the shoe is a neates leather shoe, which you know is cleane contrarie both to conscience and the statute. Beside, you wil ioyne a neates leather vampey to a calues leather heele: is not here good stutfe maister shoemaker. Well for your knauery, you shall haue those curfles which belongs vnto your craft: you shall be light footed to trauell farre, light witted vpon euery small occation to giue your maisters the bagge, you shall bee most of you vnthriftes, and almost all perfect goodfellowes. Beside I remember a mery iest how Mercurye brought you to a dangerous dis-ease, for he requested a boon for you, which fell out to your great disadvantage, and to recreate vs here a little Gentle craft, what fell to your trade by that winged God. As it happened on a time that Iupiter and Mercury trauieling together vpon earth, Mercury was wonderfully hungrye and had no money in his purse to buy him anye foode, and at last to his great comfozte he spied where a compaigny of Taylors were at Dinner with battred pease, eating their pease with their needles pointes one by one: Mercurye came to them and asked them his almes, they prouidly bad him sit downe and doo as hee saw they did, and with that deliuered him a needle. The poore God being passing hungry, could not content his matwe with eating one by one, but turned the eie of his needle and ate two or thre together: which
the

A quippe for

the Taylors seeing, they start vpp and said, what fellow: a shouell and a spade, to buttred pease, hast thou no more manners, Get out of our companie, & so they sent him packing with manie stroakes. Mercury comming backe, Iupiter demanded of him what newes: and he told him how churlishly he was vsed amongst the Taylors, well, wandering on further, Mercury espied where a company of shoemakers were at Dinner, with powdered beefe & bze welle, going to them befoze he could aske them any almes, they said, welcome good fellow, what is thy stomach vppe, wilt thou doe as we doe, and tast of beefe, Mercury thanked them and sate downe and ate his belly full, and drank well of double beere, and when hee had doone went home to his maister. Assoone as hee came Iupiter asked him what newes, and he said: I haue lighted amongst a crue of shoemakers, the beste fellows that euer I met withall, they haue frankly fed me without grudging, and therefore grant mee a boone for them. Aske what thou wilt Mercurye, quoth he, and it shall be doone, why then quoth he, grant that for this good turne they haue doone mee, they may euer spende a groat afoze they can yeare two pence. It shall be granted quoth he. Mercury assoone as Iupiter had said the worde, hee be-thought himselfe and said: Nay but that they maye yearene a groat afoze they spend two pence, for my tongue slipt at the first, well, Mercury quoth he, it cannot be recald the first with mult stand, and hereof by Mercurys boone it grew, that all of the Gentle craft are such good fellows and spendthriftes. But howsoeuer, none of those thre, neither shoemaker, Tanner, nor Currier, shall bee accepted to bee of the Jury.

As they went away with fleas in their eares, being thus taunted by Clothbatches, we might see where there came a troupe of antient Gentlemen, with their seruingmen attending vpon them. The foremost was a great old mā, with a whit beard al in russet, & a fair black cloake on his backe, and attending on him he had some fine men, their cognisance as I remember was a Peacocke without a tayle, the other two that accompanied him, seemed meaner then himselfe. But yet Gentle men of good worship, wherevpon I went towards them and saluted them, & was so bould as to question what they were, and of their businesse.

The most antientest answered hee was a knight, and those two his neighbours, the one an Esquire, the other a Gentleman, and that they

an vpstart Courtier.

they haue no urgent matters, but only to walke abroad to take the
fresh aire. When did I shew them both Cloth-breeches, and Velvet
breeches, and told them the controuersie, and desired their aid to be
upon the Jury. They smiling answered, They were content, and so
did Cloth-breeches come to reioyce, that such honest ancient, English
Gentlemen should be tryers of his Tytle. But Velvet-breeches
scoorning, kept in and made challenge to them all. I demanded the
reason why he should refuse Gentlemen of so good calling? And hee
made me this answer. Why you may gesse the inward minde by
the outward apparell, and see how he is adited by the homely robes
he is suted in. Why this knight is mortal enemy to pride & so to me,
he regardeth hospitality and aimeth at honoz with relaxing the poze
you may see although his lands and reuenues be great, and he able
to maintaine himselfe in great tzaury, yet he is content with home-
spun cloth, and scorneth the pride that is vsed nowadaies amongst
yoong vpstarts, he holdeth not the worth of his Gentry to be and
consist in Velvet-breeches, but valeweth true fame by the report of
the common sorte who praise him for his vertue, Justice, liberality,
housekeeping and almesdeeds, Vox populi vox dei, his tennants and
Farmers woulde if it might be possible, make him immortall with
their prayers and praises. He raiseth not rent, racketh no landes, ta-
keth no incumbrs, imposeth no mercilesse fines, enuies not an other,
bogeth no house ouer his neighbours head: but respecteth his country
and the commodity thereof, as deere as his life. He regardeth moze
to haue the needy fedd, to haue his boorde garnished with full plat-
ters, then to famous himselfe with excessive furniture in apparell.
Since then he scorneth pride, he must of force proclaim himself mine
enemy, and therefore he shall be none of my Jury, & such as himselfe
I gesse the Squire and the Gentleman & therefore I challenge them
all. Why quoth I, this is strange, that a man should be drawne
from a quest for his godlines. If men for vertue be challenged, whom
shall we haue upon the Jury: your obiection helpes not maister vel-
uet breeches: For if hee be a man of so godly a disposition, he will nei-
ther speake for feare or fauour, he will regard neither the riches of
the one, nor the plaine pouerty of the other. whereupon sith you haue
made me tryer, I allowe them all thre to be of the Jury, and so I
requested them to sit do wone till our Jury was full, which they cour-
teously did, although velvet breeches frowned at it, when I looking

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for moze, saſe where there came a troope of men in apparell ſeeming
pooze honeſt Citizens, in all they were eight. I demaunded of them
what they were, and whither they were going. One of them that ſeem-
ed the weltheſt, who was in a ſur-red Jacket made anſwere, that
they were al friends going to the burial of a neighbour of theirs, that
yeſter night died, and if it would doo mee any pleaſure to heare their
names, they were not ſo daintie but that they would tell them, and ſo
then he began to tell mee, that by his Art he was a Skinner, the ſe-
cond ſayd he was a Joyner, the third was a Sadler, the fourth a wa-
terman, the fiſte was a Cutler, the ſixt was a Bellowes mender, the
ſeuenty a plaiſterer, and the eight a Printer. In good time quoth I,
it is commendable when neighbours loue ſo well together, but if your
ſpeed bee not ouermuch, I muſt requeſt you to bee of a Jury, ſo I
diſcoure vnto them the controuerſie betwene Cloth breeches and vel-
uet breeches, and to what iſſue it muſt grow by a verdict, they ſeemed
all content, and I turned to the plantiffe and defendant, and asked if
they would make challenge to any of theſe. I ſcozne qd. Veluet bree-
ches, to make any great obiection againſt them, ſith they be mecan-
nicall men, and I almoſt hold them indifferent for this I know, they
get as much & moze by me than by him, the Skinner I vſe for furrers,
whereeas this baſe cloth breeches hath ſcarſe a gowne faced once in
his life, the ſadler for coſtly imbroidered ſaddels, joyner & for ſeeling
my houſe, the cutler for gilt rappers, the waterman I vſe continual-
ly, ten times for his once, and ſo likewise the plaiſterer, for the bel-
lowsmender alas pooze ſnake I knowe him not, for the Printer by
our Lady I thinke I am ſome tenne pounds in his debt for bookes,
ſo that for my part let them all paſſe. And for me to, qd. Cloth bree-
ches, but yet a little to put them in remembrance of their follies, let
me haue a bout with them all, and firſt with you maſter Skinner, to
whome I can ſay little but only this, that whereas you ſhoulde only
put the backes of ſkinnes into facing, you taſe the wombs and ſo de-
ceiue the buier, beſide if you haue ſome fantaſtike ſkin brought you
not woorth two pence, with ſome ſtraung ſpots though it be of a lib-
bet, you will ſwear tis a moſt pretious ſkin, and came from Muſco-
o: the furtheſt part of Calabria. The Sadler he ſtuffes his pannels
with ſtraw o: hay and ouer glaſeth them with haire, and makes the
leather of them of mozt, o: tane ſheeps ſkins. The joyner though an
honeſt man, yet he maketh his ioynts weak, and putteth in ſappe in
the

an vpstart Courtier.

the moztases which should be the hart of the tree, and all to make his
 stufte slender. And you Cutler, you are patron of ruffians and swash-
 bucklers, & will sell them a blade that may be thrust into a bushell,
 but if a poore man that cannot skil of it you sel him a sword or rapier
 new ouerglased, and sweare the blade came either from Turkic or
 Toledo. Now maister waterman you will say there is no subtilty
 in you, for there is none so simple but that knows your fares & what
 is due betwene Greenwich and London, & how you earn your mo-
 ny painfully with the sweat of your browes, all this is true, but let
 me whisper one thing in your eare, you will playe the goodfellowe too
 much if you be wel greased in the fist, for if a yong Gentleman and a
 pretty wench come to you & say, waterman, my friend and I meane
 to go by water and to be mery a night or two, I care not which waye
 nor whether we go, and therefore where thou thinkest we may haue
 best lodging thither carry vs: then off goes your cap and away they
 go, to bzainsford or some other place, and then you say hostesse I pray
 you vse this Gentleman and his wyfe wel, they are come out of Lon-
 don to take the aire & meane to be mery here a night or two, and to
 spend their mony frankly, when God wot they are neither man nor
 wife, nor perhaps of any acquaintance before their matche made in
 some bawdy tauerne, but you know no such matter, & therefore wa-
 terman I pardon you. And for you plaisterer and bellowsinfender
 I passe you ouer, & so do I the Printer too, only this I must needs
 say to him that some of his trade will print lewd books, and bawdy
 pamphlets, but Auri sacra fames quid non? and therefore I am con-
 tent they shal be al of the iury. I was glad there were so many accep-
 ted of at once, & hoped that now quickly the iurie would be full, loo-
 king about me, straight I might see one alone come running as fast as
 he could. I wondred what he should be that he made such hast, & the
 skinner told me he was an honest man, and one of their company, by
 his occupation a bricklaier. Oh qd. velvet breeches, a good honest sim-
 ple man, he hath bin long in my worke, in building me a sumptuous
 house. But I challenge him. qd. cloth breeches, for he is a iugler. Who
 qd. I, can it be, see he goeth very homely in leather & hath his ruler in
 his hand & his trowel at his side, & he seemeth not as one that were gi-
 uen to such qualities, yes qd. cloth breeches, he hath this policy, when
 he maketh a stately place al glorious to the eye and full of faire cham-
 bers and goodly roomes and about the house perhapes somme
 three score Chimnies, yet he canne so cunningly cast by hys arte

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that three of them shall not smoke in the twelmonth, and so spoile
 he much good moxter and bakke. Why quod I, the fault is not in the
 wo:keman but the housekeeper, for now adayes men builde so; to
 please the eye, not to profit the poore, they vse no roff, but for them-
 selues and their household, no; no fire but a little court chimnie in their
 owne chamber, howe can the poore bicklaier then be blamed, when
 the niggardnesse of the Lord or maister is the cause no more chint-
 nies doe smoke, so; would they vse auncient hospitality as their fore-
 fathers did, and value as lightly of pride as their great grandfathers,
 then should you see euery chimney in the house smoke, and p:oue that
 the poore Artificer had doone his part. Why then quod Clothb:atches
 as you please, admit him on the quest. But what be those quod Cloth-
 b:atches, that come heere so soberly? I hope they be honest men, for
 they looke very demur, I will inquire said I, and with that stepping
 to them, I demaunded their names and very courtiously the one sayd
 he was a brewer, the other a butcher, the third a baker, and the fourth
 a viltier, Hearing what they wer, I was glad, guessing sith they were
 so honest substantial men that they would help to make vp the Jury,
 when velvet b:atches with a grime and sower countenance gaue
 them this challenge. I hold it not necessary (quoth he) that these haue
 any thing to deale in my cause, sith I am at oddes with them all at
 least in fortye pounds a peece, for this seuen yeares I haue beene in-
 debted vnto them for bread, beefe, beere and other victuals, then sith
 they haue credited me long, and I haue had so little care to pay them,
 I doubt now they will renege themselves and passe against me in
 the verdict. Nay (quoth I) the rather will they hold on your part, for
 if they be honest wise men (as they sceme to be) they will be carefull
 of your preferment, seeing the more highlye they are aduancd, the
 more like are they to come by their owne. If therefore you can ob-
 iect no other poyntes of dishonesty against them, I se no reason why
 they shoulde be put by. If you doe not (quoth clothb:atches) then here
 mee and I will prooue them unfit to haue anye dealinges heere, and
 first for the Butcher. I praye you Goodman Hilcalfe, what haucke
 playe you with puffing vp of meate, and blowing with your p:icker
 as you flea it, haue you not your artificiall knaueries to set out your
 meate with p:ickes, & then sweare he hath more for money than euer
 you bought, to sel a peece of an olde Cote for a chop of a yong Dre, to
 wash your old meat & hath hung weltring in y shop with new blood, to
 trusse

for an vpstart Courtier.

trusse a waye an old eaw in stead of a young weather & although you know it is hurtful & forbidden by the statutes to flea your hides, skins, backes, with cuts and slashes to the impoverishing of the poore shomaker when he bules it, yet I praeie you how many slaughters doe you make in a poore Calves skin? Oh Butcher, a long lent be your punishment, for you make no conscience in deceiuing the poore. And you mast Butcher that growe to be worth forty thousand pounds by selling of soden water, what subtilty haue you in making your beere to spare the malt & put in the more of the hoppe to make your drinke (be barly neuer so cheape) not a whit the stronger and yet neuer sel a whit the more measure for money, you can when you haue taken all the harte of the malt away, then clape on stoe of water tis cheape enough, and make out a running of smalle beere, that it scoures a mans maw like rennish wine: in your consciere how many barrels draw you out of a quarter of malt, he, he, I conceale your falshood, least I should be too broad in setting downe your faults. And for you Goodman Baker, you that loue to be seene in the open Market place vpon the Pillorie, the world cries out of your willinesse, you craue but one deere yeare to make your daughter a Gentlewoman, you buy your corne at the best hand, and yet will not be content to make your bread weight by many ounces, you put in yeast & salt to make it heauie, and yet al your policie cannot make it but you fine for the Pillorie, the poore crie out, the rich find fault, and the Lord Maior and the Sheriffs like honourable and worshipfull maiestrates euerie daie walke abroad and weigh your bread, and yet all will not serue to make you honest men, but were extremitie bled, and the statute put in the highest degree in practise, you would haue as few eares on your heades as the collier. Last to you Tom tapster, that tape your smal cannes of beere to the poore, and yet fill them halfe full of froth that carde your beere (if you se your guests begin to be drunke) halfe smal and halfe strong, you cannot be content to pinch with your small pottes and your Marie faggots: but haue your trugges to draw men on to villanie, and to bring customers to your house, where you sell a ioint of meat for xii. pence that cost you scarce six, and if any chance to go on the skore you skore him when he is a sleepe, and set vp a grot a daie more then he hath, to find you drinking pots with your companions, to be short, thou art a knaue, and I like not of any of the rest, the way lies before you, and therefore you may be gon for you shall be none of the quest,

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I smild to see Cloth bzatches so peremptory, when I saw thus sat fellows all in damask cotes and gownes welled with Velvet berthe bzane, and in great consultation, as if they were to determine of some weightie matter, dzalving neere I sawe they were wealthie citizens, so I went and reuerently saluted them, and told them how we needed their aid about the appealing of a controuersie, shewinge them where the knight, esquier, and other staid, til we might finde men to fill vp the iurie, they were contented, but velvet bzatches excepted against sower of them and said they were none of his frendes, that was the marchant, goldsmith, mercer and dzaper, his allegations were these, that they were al fettered of one winge to fetch in yong Gentlemen by commodities vnder the colour of lending of monie: soz the marchant he deliuered the yron, tin, lead, hops, sugars, spices, oiles, bzolwe paper oz whatsoever else from six monthes to six monthes, which when the pooze gentleman came to sell againe, he could not make thzeescore & ten in the hundred beside the vsurie. The mercer he follo weth the yong vpstart Gentleman that hath no gouernement of himselfe, and he sedeth his humoz to go bzane, he shall not want silkes, sattins, veluets, to pranke abroad in his pomp, but with this prouision, that he must bind ouer his land in a statut marchant oz Staple, and so at last sozfeit al vnto the mercilesse mercer, and leaue himselfe neuer a foot of ground in England, which is the reason that soz a fewe remnaunts of veluets and silks the Mercer creepereth into whole lordships. The Goldsmith is not behinde, soz most of them deale with vsurie, and let yong Gentlemen haue commodites of plate soz ten in the hundred, but they must lose the fashion in selling it againe, (which cuts them soze) beside they are most of them skild in alchimie, and can temper mettals shze woly, with no little profite to themselves, and disaduantage to the buier, beside paffe rings, & quaint conceits which I omit. And so soz you Dzaper, hee fetcheth them off soz luerie cloth, and cloth soz six monthes and six, and yet hath hee more knacks in his budget, soz hee hath so darke a shop that no man can well choose a peece of cloth it so shadowes the die and the thzeed, a man shall be deceined in the wooll and the nappe, they cause the Clothwozker so to presse them, beside hee impleth this charge to the Clothwozker that he dzawe his cloth & pull it passing hard when he sets it vpon the tenters, that he may haue it ful bzeadth and length til thzead and al tears and rent a peeces, what care they
soz

an vpstart Courtier.

for that, haue they not a drauer to serue their turne to draue and
seame vp the holes so cunningly that it shal neuer be espied? my selfe
haue seene in one broad cloth eightene scoze holes tozme rackt and
puld by the Clothwozker, only to please the Draper and deceiue the
commonwealth. To be short, the Clothwozker what with rowing &
setting in a fine nap, with powdering it & pressing it with shering the
wooll to the pzoofe of the threadd, deale so cuningly that they pzoue
themselves the Drapers minister to execute his subtilties, therefore
if he chance to come let him be remembzed. Now sir for the vintner,
he is an honest substantial man a friend to al good fellowes, & truly my
friend for my money, & woorthy to be of the iury. Why no qd. cloth
bzeches I am of another mind, for I hold him as deceitful as any of
the rest, what y vintner, why he is a kinde of Pegromancer, for at
midnight when al men ar in bed then he forsooth sa's to his charmes &
spels, so that he tumbles one hogthead in'o another, & can make a
cup of claret that hath lost his colour look high with a dash of red wine
at his pleasure, if he hath a strong gascoigne wine, for feare it should
make his guests to soone drunke, he can allay it with a smal Rochel
wine: he can cherish vp whike wine with sacke, & perhaps if you bid
him wash the pot cleane when he go's to draw you a quart of wine,
he wel leane a little water in the bottome, and then draw it full of
wine, and what & if he do? tis no harm wine & water is good against
the heat of the liver. It were infinit to reberse y ingling of vintners,
the disorder of their houses, especially of the persons that frequent
them, & therefore with veluet bzeches hath put by the merchant, gold-
smith, mercer, & draper, the vintner shal goe with them for company.
As these wer going away in a snuffe for being thus plainly taunted,
we might se a mad merry crue come leping ouer the field as frolickly
as if they ought not al the world two pence, and drawing nearer we
might perceiue that either bottle-ale or beere had made a fraie with
them, for the lifting of their feet shewed the lightnesse of their heads,
the foremost was a plaine cuntry sir John, or bickar that pzoclaimed
by the rednes of his nose he did oftner go into the alehouse than the
pulpit, & him I asked & what they were & whether they were going:
what are you qd. the pzest that stand by the high way to examine me
& my friends, heres none in my company but are able to answere for
them selues, I seeinge they weare all set on a merrye pinne,
tould the cause and howe the controuersie grewe betwixt Cloth-
bzeches and Veluet bzeches and that wee needed them to bee

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of the quest. mary (quoth sir Ihon) a good motion, knowe these all are my parishoners, and we haue beene dzinking with a pooze man, and spending our money with him, a neighbour of ours that hath lost a colw, now for our names & our trades, this is a smith, the second a weauer, the third a miller, the fourth a cooke, the fifth a carpenter, the sixt a glouer, the seauenth a pedlar, the eight a tinker, the ninth a waterberer, the tenth a husbandman, y eleuenth a diar, & the twelsthe a sailo, and I their bickar: how could you sir haue a fitter Jury than me and my parishioners? you are a little too bzafe, qd Cloth bzatches, are you not some paritan p. parson, or some fellow that raiseth vp new scisemes and heresies amongst your people? A plague on them all qd I sir, for the world was neuer in quiet, deuotion, neighbourhood nor hospitality neuer flourished in this land, since such bystart boies & whittle witted fools became of the ministry, I cannot tel. they pzeach faith, faith, and say that doing of almes is papistry, but they haue taught so long Fides solam iustificat, that they haue pzeached good woakes quite out of our parish, a poze man shal as sone bzake his necke as his fast at a rich mans doze: so, my friend, I am indeed none of the best scholars, yet I can read an Homely euery Sunday & hollyday, and I keepe companie with my neighbours, and goe to the alehouse with them, and if they be fallen out, spende my money to make the frendes, & on Sondayes sometime if goodfellowship cal me away, I say both morning & euening prayer at once, & so let the haue a whole afternone to plaie in. This is my life, I spende my liuing with my parishioners, I seeke to do al good, and I offer no man harm. Well (qd cloth bzatches) I warrant thou art an honest bickar, and therefore stand by, thou shalt be one of the quest, and for you smith, I see no great fault in you, you yerne your liuing with the sweat of your browes, & there can be no great knauery in you, only I would haue you mend your life for dzinking sith you are neuer at quiet vnles the pot be stil at your nose. But you weauer, the Proverbe puts you downe for a crafty knaue, you cann, filch and steale almost as il as the Taylo, your woofe and warpe is so cunningly dzawne out that you plague the pooze Countrey huswiues for their yarne, and dawbed on so much dreggs that you make it seeme both wel wrought and to beare waight, when it is slenderly wouen, and you haue stolne a quarter of it from the pooze wife. Away, be packing, for you shalbe cashierd. What Miller, shake handes with your brother the Weauer for knauery: You canne take toll twise, and haue false hoppers to conuey

an vpstart Courtier.

conuey away the poore mans meale, Be gone I loue not your duffy
lookes, and for companie Goodman Cooke go you with them, for you
cosen the poore men and Countrey Learners with your filthy meat:
you will buy of the worst & cheapest, when it is bad enough for dogs,
and yet so powder it and parboile it, that you wil sel it to some honest
poore men, and that vnreasonably to: If you leaue any meate ouer
night, you make a shift to heat it againe the next daie: Nay, if on
the Thursday at night ther be any left, you make pies of it on Sunday
mornings, and almost with your flouently knauerie poison the poore
people. To be short, I brooke you not, and therefore be walking. For
the Carpenter, Glouer, and Waterbearer, the Husbandman, Dier,
and Sailor, with your trades haue but pettie sights, stand you with
Mai. Wickar, you are like to help to giue in the verdict: but for the ped-
lar & the Tinker, they are two notable knaues, both of a haire, & both
cosen Germaines to y^e Deuill. For the Tinker, why he is a drowtie,
bawdy, drunken companion, that walkes vp and downe with a trug
after him, and in stopping one hole makes thre: and if in conuenient
place he meets with one alone, perhaps ridle him of all that euer
they haue. A base knaue without fear of God or loue to anye one but
to his whoze and to himselfe. The Pedlar as bad or rather worse,
walketh the countrey with his docksey at the least, if hee haue not
two his moztel dells, & Autem mortis, he passeth commonly through
euery paire of stocks, either for his drunkenness or his lecherie. And
beside it is reported you can lift or nip a bounge like a guire Coue, if
you want pence, and that you carrie your pack but for a coulour to
shadow your other villanies. Well howsoeuer, you are both knaues
and so be logging. Well quoth I, suppose the Iurie is almost full, I
belceue we want not aboue thre or four persons: Looke you where
they come to make vp the number, & they should be men of good dis-
position, for they seeme to be all of the Countrey. Asone as they came
to vs I met them, and told them the matter, and they were content.
The one said hee was a Grasier, the other a Farmer, the other a
shephard, to them both. What thinke you of these thre qd. I? Mary
saith Meluct breeches, two of them are honest men, but the other is
a base knaue: but tis no matter, shuffle him in amongst the rest. Nay
by your leaue qd. Cloth breeches, I will shuffle out these two, for
they are the verie Cozmozants of the Countrey, and deuoure the poore
people with their monstrous exactions. And first I allodge against

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the Graſſer, that he ſoſtalleth paſtures and medow grounds, ſoꝛ the feeding of his cattell, and wyngeth leaſes of them out of pooꝛe mens handes, and in his buyeng of cattel he committeth great vſury, ſoꝛ if it pꝛoue a twet yeare, then he maketh hauocke and ſelleth deere: if it be a drie yeare, then he buyeth cheape, and yet hauing paſture keepes them til he may come to his owne pꝛiſe: he knoweth as well as the Butcher by the ſæd of a bullocke how much Allow he will yeld, what his quarters will amount vnto: what the Tanner will giue ſoꝛ the Hide: ſay, what the ſolſe wiues were able to make of the inwards: ſo that he ſels it ſo deere to the Butcher, that he can ſcarſe liue of it: and therefore what ſubtiltie the butcher vſeth cometh from the Graſſer, ſo that I exempt him from the queſt as a bad member, and an il friend to Clothbꝛaches. And ſoꝛ you maſſe. Farmer, you know how thꝛough you couetus Landloꝛds raiſe their rents, ſoꝛ if a pooꝛe man haue but a plough land, if you ſæ his paſtures bear good graſſe, and his earable ground good coꝛne, and that he pꝛoſpereth and goeth ſoꝛward on it and pꝛouideth and maintaineth his wiſe and ſeruans honeſtly, then Inuidus alterius rebus macreſcit opimis, vicinumque pecus grandius vber habet.

Then ſtraight enuie pꝛicks the farmer ſoꝛward, and he bids the Landloꝛd farre moze then the pooꝛe man paies, yearely ſoꝛ it: ſo that if he be a Tenant at will, he puts him out to begge in the ſtreet: oꝛ when his leaſe comes out he ouer loades him in the fine, and thus bloudſucketh he the pooꝛe ſoꝛ his owne pꝛiuate pꝛofite. Beſides the baſe chuffe if he ſæſ a ſoꝛward yeare & that coꝛne is like to be plenty, then he murmureth againſt God, and ſwereth and proteſteth he ſhal be vndone: reſpecting moze the filling of his owne coſſers by a dearth, then the pꝛofit of his countrey by a general plenty. Beſide ſir may it pleaſe you, when new coꝛne comes into the market, who bꝛings in to relieue the ſtate? Not your maiſterſhip, but the pooꝛe huſbandman, that wants pence. ſoꝛ you keepe it till the backe ende of the yeare, nay you haue your Barners which haue coꝛne of two oꝛ thꝛee yeares olde, vpon hope ſtill of a deere yeare, rather letting the Weaſels eat it, then the pooꝛe ſhould haue it at any reasonable pꝛice. So that I conclude, you are a Coꝛmozant of the common wealth, and a wꝛetch that liues of the ſpoile of the needy, and ſo I leaue you to iet with the Graſſer. ſay ſoꝛ the ſhepheard, unleſſe it be that he killeth a Lambe now & then, & ſales the ſor ſtole him, I know litle craft in his budget, therefore

an vpstart Courtier.

therefore let him be among the honest men of the Jury.

Well Cloth breeches quoth I, you are very peremptory in your challenges, what say you here comes 3. or 4. Citizens, will anye of these serue turne, I cannot tel qd. he til I know their names and conditions, with that I stept afoze the company, and inquired what they were, the eldest of them being a graue Citizen, sayde he was a Grocer, the rest his good & honest neighbours, a Chandler, a Haberdasher, a Clothworker, and two strangers, one a Mallon, the other a Dutchman. How like you of these quoth I to Weluet breeches, well enough quoth he, for I am little acquainted with them, yet I knowe they fauour me, bicause I haue on a Sunday seene them all in their likes. I marry, qd. cloth breeches, but they neuer get that bzaury with honesty, for the cloth worker his faultes were laide open, befoze when we had the Dzafer in question: and therefore let him bee packing. For you Chandler, I like not of your tricks, you are to conuersant with the kitchen stufte wines you after your worke or snaff is stiffened, you dip it in filthy drosse, and after giue him a coat of good tallowe, which makes the Candles drop and wast away, to the great hindrance of the poore workemen that watcheth in the night. Beside you pinch in your waights and haue false mesures, and many other knaueries that I omit, but this be sure you shall not meddle in my matter: neyther the Haberdasher, for he trims vp olde feltes and makes them beery sayze to the eie, and faceth and edgeth them neatly, and then bee turues them away to such a simple man as I am: and so abuseth vs with his coolenage. Beside you buy gumd taffata, wherewith you line hats that will straight assunder as soone as it comes to the heate of a mans head. To be bzeise, I am not well skild in your knaueries, but indeed you are too subtle for poore Cloth breeches, and therefore you shall be none of the Jury. Harrie the Grocer seemes an honest man, and I am content to admit of him, only take this as a caneaf by the way, that you buy of the Garbellers of spices, the refuse that they lifte from the marchant, and that you mix againe & sel it to your customers. Beside in your beaten spices, as in pepper, you put in bay berries, and such drosse, and so wzing the poore, but these are sleight causes and so I ouerpasse them, and bouchsafe you to be of the quest. But I pray you what be those two honest me, qd. the grocer the one a Dutchman & a shomaker, & other a frenchman & a Millaner in S. Martins, & sels shirts, bands, braciets, Jewels, & such pretty toies for

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Gentlewomen: oh they be of belnet breeches acquaintance, vpstarts as well as he, that haue brought with them pride and abuses into England: and first to the Pillainer. What toys deuileth he to feed the humors of the vpstart Gentleman withall, and of fond Gentlewomen, such fannes, such ouches, such breeches, such bracelets, such grauncies, such periwigs, such paintings, such ruffles, and cuffs, as hath almost made England as full of proud soppries as Tyre and Sydon were. There is no Seamster can make a bande or a shirt, so well as his wife: and why forsooth? bicause the filthy queane wears a craynce and is a Frenchwoman forsooth. Where as our English women of the Exchange, are both better work women, & will affoord a better penworth. And so for the drunken Dutchman, this shoemaker, he and such as he is, abuse the Common wealth, and the poorer mechanick men and handicrafts men of London, for our new vpstart soles of belnet breeches fraternity, liketh nothing but that the outlandish Ass maketh. They like no shoo so well as the Dutchman maketh, when our English men passe them farre. And so for Chandlers, and all other occupations, they are wronged by the Dutch and French. And therefore sith the Commons hates them, they cannot be my friends, and therefore let them be launching to Flushing, for they shall be no triers of my controuersie. Well quoth I, now I suppose the Jury is full, and we see no more comming, let vs call them and see howe manye we haue. So they appeared to their names, as followeth.

The Names of the Jury to be empanelled.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Knight. | 13 Cutler. |
| 2 Esquire. | 14 Plaisterer. |
| 3 Gentleman. | 15 Saylor. |
| 4 Priest. | 16 Ropemaker. |
| 5 Printer. | 17 Smith. |
| 6 Grocer. | 18 Glouer. |
| 7 Skinner. | 19 Husbandman. |
| 8 Dier. | 20 Shepheard. |
| 9 Pewterer. | 21 Waterman. |
| 10 Sadler. | 22 Waterbearer. |
| 11 Ioyner. | 23 Bellowsmender. |
| 12 Bricklayer. | |

What

for an vpstart Courtier.

What is it not possible yd. I to haue one moze to make bp the foure & twenty? as I was thus speaking, I espied a far off, a certaine kind of an ouerwozne Gentleman attired in Melnet & sattyn, but it was somewhat droppd and greasse, and bootes on his legges, whose soles waxed thin seemed to complaine of their Pailier which treadings thrust vnder his feet, had brought them vnto that cōsumption, he walked not as other men in the Common beaten waye, but came compassing Circum circa, as if we had bene Deuils, and he would draw a Circle about vs, and at euery third steppe he looked backe, as if he were afrayde of a Bayly or sergeant.

After him followed two pert Aprlesquires, the one had a Surrey cloth golone on, faced downe befoze with gray Conny, & laid thicke on the flæus with lace, which he quaintly bare vp, to shew his white Taffata hose and blacke lilke stockings, a huge ruffe about his necke wapt in his great head like a wicker Cage, a little hat with bymes like the wings of a doublet, wherein hee wore a Jewell of glasse, as broad as the Chancery seale: after him followed two boies in cloakes like butter flies, carrieng one of the his cutting sword of choller, the other his daunsing rapier of delight. His Camerard that bare him company was a iollie light timberd Jacke a Papes, in a sute of watchet Taffata cut to the skinne, with a cloake all to be sawbed with colourd lace: both he and my goloned brother sained by their pase as if they had some sutes to mounseur boots. At length comming nere, I might discerne the first to be a Poet, the second a Player, the third a Position, alias the Usher of a Daunsing scole. Well met maister Poet yd. I, and welcome you frinds also, though not soe perticularly knowne. So it is, though none of you thre be Common wealthsmen, yet vpon vrgent necessitie wee must be forced to employ you. We haue a Jury to bee empanelled immediatly, which one of you thre must help to make bp, euen he which approues himselfe the honestest man. They are all honest men and goodfellowes quoth Melnet bræches, therefore it is no great matter whether of them we chouse.

The Doctors doubt of that quoth Cloth bræches, for I am of a different opinion. This first whome by his carelesse slouenlie gate at first sight I imagined to be a Poet, is a wast good and an vnthrift, that he is borne to make the Lanernes rich and himselfe a begger, if he haue forty pounds in his purse togiether, he puts it not to vsurie, neyther buies land nor Marchandize with it, but a monthes commo-
dite

A quippe for

dity of wenches and Capons. Tenne pound a supper, Why tis nothing, If his plough goes and his inkhorne be clere: Take one of them two, the twentieth thousande pound and hang him. He is a king of his pleasure, and counts al other Boozes & pesants, that though they haue money at command yet know not like him how to Domaniere with it to any purpose as they should. But to speake plainly, I think him an honest man if he would but liue within his compasse, and generally no mans foe but his owne. Therefore I hold him a man fit to be of my Iurie. Nay qd. beluet breeches, I haue more minde to these two, for this poet is a proud fellow, that bicause he hath a little wit in his budget will contemne and mislike vs that are the common sort of Gentlemen, and thinke we are beholding to him if he doe but bestow a faire looke vpon vs. The player and the Wither of the dauncing schoole are plain, honest, humble men, that for a penny or an olde cast sute of apparell. Ande quoth Clothbreeches you say troth, they are but too humble, for they be so lowly, that they be base minded, I meane not in their looks nor apparell, for so they be peacocks and painted asses, but in their course of life, for they care not how they get crowns, I meane how basely so they haue them, & yet of the two I hold the plaier to be better Christian, although he is in his owne imagination, too full of selfe liking and selfe loue, and is vnfit to be of the Iurie, though I hid and concele his faults and fopperies, in that I haue bene merrie at his sports, only this I must say, that such a plaine country fellow as my selfe they bring in as clownes & fooles to laugh at in their plaie, whereas they get by vs, and of our almes the proudest of them all doth liue. Well to be briefe let him trot to the stage, for he shall be none of the iurie. And for you maister Wither of the dauncing schoole, you ar a leader into al misrule, you instruct gentlemen to order their feet when you bid them to misorder their manners, you are a bad fellowe that stand vpon your tricks & capers. til you make yoong gentlemen caper without their lands, why sir to be flat with you, you liue by your legges as a iugler by his handes, you are giuen ouer to the pumps & vanities of the world, and to be short you are a keeper of misrule and a lewd fellow, & you shall be none of the quest. why then qd. I. you are both agreed that the Poet is he that must make by the xxiiiij. They answered both, he, and none but he. Then I calling them al together, bad them laye their hands one the booke, and first I cald the knight, and after the
rest

an vpstart Courtier.

rest as they followed in order then I gaue them their charge thus.

Worshipfull Sir with the rest of the Iury. whome wee haue solicited of choice honest menne, whose consciences will deale uprightly in this controuersie, you and the rest of your companye are here vpon your oath & oathes to inquire whether Cloth bzaches haue done desseison vnto Weluet bzaches yea or no in or about London, in putting him out of franke tenement wronging him of his right and imbolishing his credit, if you finde that Cloth bzaches hath done Weluet bzaches wrong, then let him be set in his former estate and allowe him reasonable dammages. Vpon this they laid their bandes on the booke and were swozne and departed to scrutine of the matter by inquirie amongst themselves, not stirring out of our sight nor staieng long, but straight returned, and the knight for them al as the foremost, said thus. So it is that we haue with equity & conscience considered of this controuersy betwene weluet bzaches & cloth bzaches, as touching the prerogative of them both, which are most worthy to be rightly resedent and haue seison in frank tenement here in England, and we do find that Clothbzaches is by many hundred yeares more antient, euer since Brute an inhabitant in this Island, one that hath beene in Diebus illis a companion to kings, an equall with the nobility, a friend to gentlemen and yeomen, and a patron of the poore, a true subiect, a good housekeeper, and generall as honest as he is antient. Whereas Weluet bzaches is an vpstart come out of Italy, begot of Pride, nursed by selfe-loue, and brought into this country by his companion newfangellesse, that he is but of late time a raiser of rents, and an enimie in the common-wealth, and one that is not any way to be preferred in equitie before Clothbzaches, therfore by generall verdict wee adiudge Cloth bzaches to haue done him no wrong, but that he hath lawfully clatmd his title of frank tenement, and in that we appoint him for ever to be resident. At this verdict pronounced by the knight, all the standers by clapt their hands, and gaue a mighty shout. whereat I started and awaked, for I was in a dreame and in my bed, and so rose vpe, and wrot in a merrie baine what you haue hard,

FINIS.